

## De Klerk ends visit to Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — South African President F.W. de Klerk wound up his visit to Israel Wednesday after stopping to visit new immigrants on his way to the airport. Foreign Minister David Levy saw Mr. de Klerk off at Tel Aviv. Earlier President Chaim Herzog hosted a farewell ceremony for the South African leader. On Monday Israel and South Africa signed a memorandum of understanding to increase cooperation in such fields as science, culture, industry, agriculture, tourism and economy. There was no mention of military cooperation in the pact. In July, Israel joined other Western nations in lifting economic and cultural sanctions against South Africa after the abolition of South Africa's last major apartheid law, racial classification of citizens. During the sanctions period, there were several allegations that Israel cooperated with South Africa on weapons technology. These were all denied by Israel. South African Foreign Minister R.F. "Fik" Botha told reporters during his visit that reported nuclear cooperation between the two countries was "a figment of the imagination of someone."

# Jordan Times

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## Iraq: All Iranian PoWs released

BAGHDAD (R) — All Iranians captured during the 1980-88 Gulf war have been released and repatriated through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), an Iraqi Foreign Ministry official was quoted as saying Wednesday. And he accused Iran of still holding thousands of Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs). The unnamed official was commenting on a report Monday quoting the spokesman for Iran's U.N. mission as saying Tehran was willing to release the remaining Iraqi PoWs if Baghdad reciprocated. Tehran has sent Baghdad a list of some 5,000 Iranians that it says are still being held in Iraq. The Iranian offer was made at a meeting between U.N. Representative Kamel Kharrazi and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. In Wednesday's statement, carried by the Iraqi News Agency, the Foreign Ministry official said Iraq had set free all Iranian PoWs and they were repatriated to Iran under ICRC supervision. He said Iran, which held thousands of Iraqis, had failed to carry out its commitments under U.N. Security Council Resolution 538, which led to the August 1988 ceasefire between the two states. The official suggested forming joint Iraq-Iranian committees under ICRC supervision to determine the fate of those missing.

## Masri reassures public on bread, flour subsidies

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government will retain its subsidy on bread and flour and is not planning any change in its policy towards these commodities, Prime Minister Taher Masri said Wednesday. "The Council of Ministers has not taken any decision related to flour and bread subsidies," Mr. Masri said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra. "Nor has the cabinet decided on any hikes in the prices of bread or on issuing coupons for them," said the prime minister against a backdrop of reports and criticism in the local press over the subject. "What has been reported was mere ideas about the process of ensuring that the government subsidies reach those who deserve help," he said. In recent comments to the press, Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Ali Abul Ragheb said bread was to be added to the list of basic food commodities currently supplied to the people under a coupon system. However, he also said, the measure was not likely to be introduced in the near future.

At present, bread is available at 75 fils a kilogramme, a price senior officials say is almost one third of the actual cost in view of the price of wheat.

According to Mr. Abul

Ragheb, a regularisation of the subsidy on bread and flour — which account for over two thirds of the total government support for foodstuffs — will save the treasury around JD 5 million annually.

Reports that the government was planning to introduce coupons for bread and the price of bread could go up in the free market had drawn criticism from the local press as well as several parliament members.

The priority in any government move to regularise subsidies on foodstuffs will be to ensure that the low-income segment of the population is not affected, Mr. Abul Ragheb said.

"We are very aware that a blanket removal or reduction of subsidies will make it very difficult for some of our people and we will ensure that these people are protected against any such move," Mr. Abul Ragheb told the Jordan Times in an interview earlier this month.

In fact, he said, the government will channel part of the savings through the regularisation process as additional help to the needy sectors of the population. Total government expenditure on subsidies in 1991 is estimated at JD60 million to JD 62 million, compared with JD 90 million in 1989. A split-up of the 1991 figure showed that JD 31 million were spent on subsidising bread, JD 14

million on sugar, rice and milk, and JD 16 million to JD 18 million on fodder.

The figures reflect a saving of JD 25 million resulting from the coupon system for sugar, rice and milk introduced in mid-1990.

The present coupon system covers only families who possess civil registration books. Commercial establishments and food industries as well as foreign residents have to buy the commodities at higher market prices, also set by the government.

Senior officials, including Mr. Abul Ragheb and others, reject suggestions that the government move to regularise and streamline subsidies was prompted solely by a demand made by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as part of the Kingdom's economic restructuring programme.

"It doesn't matter whether the IMF wants it or not. What matters is that there is a lopsided situation which should be corrected and this means that the food subsidies should not be used for commercial purposes or go to those who can do without them," according to Mr. Abul Ragheb.

The present 75-fils-a-kilogramme price of bread, officials say, reflects subsidy support of almost two-thirds of the actual price in view of the international prices of wheat.

## Syria 'determined' to reclaim all Israeli-occupied territory

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Damascus said Wednesday it was determined to reclaim all occupied Syrian territory and bitterly condemned Israel's move to place the Golan Heights off-limits for negotiations.

An official Syrian statement described the draft resolution on the Golan Heights passed by the Israeli parliament (Knesset) Monday as an attempt to undermine the Middle East peace process which began in Madrid on Oct. 30.

"The Israeli parliament's decision is a flagrant violation of U.N. resolutions... and a challenge to the principles and objectives of the Madrid peace conference," the statement said.

The statement said Syria was "determined to reclaim all the occupied Arab lands in the Golan and end Israeli occupation of the rest of the Arab territories."

Syria and Israel held their first direct talks in Madrid on Nov. 3 following the opening of the conference but the meeting ended with Syria calling for withdrawal from occupied Arab lands and Israel rejecting the demand.

The Israeli draft resolution confirms continued Israeli occupation of the Golan and urges the building of more settlements on the plateau.

President Hosni Mubarak

finally has linked the next two stages of the Middle East peace process, as Syria has done. But he did it in reverse, underlining divisions among the Arabs over peace strategy.

In remarks published Wednesday, Mr. Mubarak hinted strongly that Egypt will attend multilateral negotiations whenever the United States and the Soviet Union, the peace process' sponsors, can organise them.

He also said results of such talks cannot be implemented without overall solutions to outstanding problems from bilateral peace negotiations between Israel and the Arabs.

Thus, the Egyptian president agreed in principle with Syria that head-to-head talks over land and other bilateral issues hold the key to overall peace.

But Syria says it would not join multilateral talks unless Israel first makes clear its intent to withdraw from the occupied territories under resolutions of the United Nations.

"Any results that can be achieved in the multilateral talks should be made to hinge on the outcome of bilateral negotiations," Mr. Mubarak reportedly told parliamentarians Tuesday. "But this should not prevent all the parties from sitting together and negotiating on all problems."

That makes the difference between the key Arab states one of timing. Syria demands progress with Israel before overall talks, but Egypt is willing to talk on regional issues before results of bilateral contacts are known.

Invitations issued by the United States and the Soviet Union to the Madrid peace conference prescribed multilateral talks on regional issues two weeks after the start of one-on-one negotiations.

The multilaterals would deal with subjects like arms control, water resources, environmental protection and help for refugees.

The remarks by Mr. Mubarak, a key figure in deliberations that led to the Madrid conference, was the nearest an Egyptian official has come to saying that participation in multilaterals should not be deferred.

Al Mubassar, a government-owned magazine that published Mr. Mubarak's remarks, also printed an interview with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

He visited Mr. Mubarak last week after meeting Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus and reportedly endorsing his position on a withdrawal commitment by

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## Peace talks opponents challenge negotiators

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (R) — Palestinian opponents to Arab-Israeli talks waved their fists at peace negotiators in the occupied West Bank Wednesday, demanding they should withdraw from more planned talks with the Jewish state.

About 200 Hamas and Marxist activists marched around 500 supporters of the U.S.-brokered Arab-Israeli peace talks who had gathered in Hebron to hear delegation adviser Faissal Hussein speak about the Madrid peace conference.

Palestinian negotiators and advisers, campaigning in recent days to rally Palestinian support for the bilateral talks, faced their stiffest challenge in Hebron, the West Bank heartland of the fundamentalist Hamas movement.

"Shame and disgrace to those handing olive branches to Israeli soldiers," read one demonstrator's placard, referring to recent pro-conference peace marches in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

A majority of the nearly two million Palestinians in the West

Bank and Gaza Strip have come out in favour of the U.S.-brokered peace talks.

But many groups, including Muslim fundamentalists and hardline factions active in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, have been vocal in opposing the talks.

Since they returned to a heroes' welcome last Sunday, delegation figures have addressed rallies and held debates in several occupied West Bank cities and towns, including Arab East Jerusalem.

"We need to explain to our people what happened in Madrid and to explain that the process is long one," Zahira Kamal, a member of the advisory committee to the 14-member Palestinian negotiating team, told Reuters.

Hardliners have printed leaflets and organised demonstrations against the talks.

Hamas has branded any future peace treaty as null and void but there are indications hardliners have been losing ground among

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## Islamists threaten to nullify Algerian elections

ALGIERS (R) — An election boycott threatened by Muslim fundamentalists could make Algeria's first multi-party national election meaningless, analysts and diplomats said Wednesday.

The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), the main opposition party, called on the government this week to "clean up" the political climate before the vote, which was postponed in June because of fundamentalist riots.

First-round voting is set for Dec. 26 and caretaker Prime Minister Sid Ahmad Ghozali seems unlikely to meet FIS demands, which include the release of imprisoned leaders accused of conspiracy against the state.

President Chadli Benjedid has for three years been steering



## Jordan celebrates King's 56th birthday with festivities today

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan today celebrates the 56th of His Majesty King Hussein.

On the occasion, King Hussein received cables of good wishes from the prime minister, speakers of the Senate and Lower House of Parliament and

senior government officials, as well as heads of public organisations, trade unions and various institutions in the Kingdom.

Thursday is an official holiday. All government departments and public institutions will be closed. Various government de-

partments and popular organisations in the Kingdom have planned celebrations to mark the King's birthday.

The Public Security Department (PSD) has organised a major festival on Nov. 18 to celebrate the occasion.

## Bush meets Jewish leaders on Israeli loan

NEW YORK (R) — President George Bush met American Jewish leaders Tuesday in a fence-mending session over the thorny issue of loan guarantees for Israel to resettle Soviet Jews.

"He said all the right things," Alvin Karpman, president of the American Jewish Committee, told Reuters. "It was a good time for fence-mending."

Mr. Bush has been in hot water with American Jewish leaders over his request to Congress to delay a decision on Israeli loan guarantees until after the Middle East peace conference.

Israel wanted U.S. loan guarantees to help resettle hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews, but Mr. Bush asked Congress in September to wait 120 days before acting on the loans.

Mr. Bush also opposes the building of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories and wants to make sure that no money covered by the loan guarantees would be used for such settlements.

No substantial details of Mr. Bush's 65-minute meeting with the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organisations at New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel were revealed but conference members described it as a "productive and positive meeting."

"It wasn't a rock-em-sock-em meeting," Mr. Moses said. "The Jewish communities and the administration were intent on making it a good meeting and it was a good meeting."

Mr. Bush assured the group he was committed to humanitarian aid for the absorption of Soviet Jews in Israel, but he still wanted to wait out the 120 days.

"He supports humanitarian aid, but the form will be decided after the 120 days," Mr. Moses said.

Mr. Bush also said relations

with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had improved and he commended Mr. Shamir for coming to Madrid for the peace talks.

Mr. Moses said Mr. Bush planned to invite Mr. Shamir to the White House during the U.S. visit next week.

Shoshana Cardin, president of the 17-member conference, lauded Mr. Bush's efforts in bringing about the peace conference.

"We want to thank the president for bringing to fruition a peace conference which many had deemed impossible," she said.

She supported maintaining a non-active role for the United States in the peace talks process.

"The president assured us that the U.S. will not impose any decisions," Ms. Cardin said. "The administration will not put on the agenda any issues for the parties to discuss."

Mr. Moses said Mr. Bush also denounced anti-Semitism and supported repealing United Nations Resolution 3379 that equates Zionism with racism.

"He said this is the time for movement to repeal 3379," Mr. Moses said. "There is no change in the U.S. government's historical position on anti-Semitism."

Mr. Bush also used the meeting to speak out against David Duke, the former Ku Klux Klan member who is running for governor of Louisiana as a Republican.

"He said anyone who denies that the holocaust existed is a threat," Mr. Moses said.

The president last met with the group, which supports Israeli interests in the United States, in February during the Gulf war.

But powerful efforts by the Jewish leaders to get Congress to override the president on the loan guarantees issue forced another meeting.

## Rebels pull back from 3 northern Iraqi towns

NICOSIA (AP) — Kurdish rebel forces have withdrawn from three main cities in Iraqi Kurdistan as part of an agreement to end a two-week government blockade and head off a major military confrontation, a spokesman said Wednesday.

The pullout signalled a victory for the Iraqi government's efforts to get the Kurds to resume deadlocked negotiations on autonomy for their region in northern Iraq.

Kurdish control of the cities, which began after extensive fighting in July, has led to continuing conflict between the guerrillas and government officials.

"We decided to pull out of so that law and order can be maintained more easily without the presence of masses of armed men," said Sherwan Dizayee, a spokesman for the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP).

The Kurdish guerrilla forces redeployed outside the main cities to form a buffer zone against Iraqi army, Mr. Dizayee said from the KDP's London office.

Order in Erbil, Sulaimaniyah and Dohuk will be maintained by a mixed force of guerrillas and Iraqi police, under control of a coordinating committee, Mr. Dizayee said.

The development followed a government military buildup south of Erbil and the blockade clamped two weeks ago to prevent fuel and other vital supplies reaching the three cities.

The blockade was seen as pressure by the government on the Iraqi Kurdistan Front, a

grouping of all rebel forces, to speed up autonomy negotiations stalled since early summer.

The talks started in April after guerrillas and the government fought to a standstill following in the Kurdish rebellion after the Gulf war.

Reports earlier in the week spoke of a squaring up of the rival forces outside Erbil. A battle could have brought many casualties.

Mr. Dizayee also reported Tuesday that the army had used tanks and artillery on Sunday to attack the village of Kani Lan, about 50 kilometres south of the border with Turkey.

He said at least 12 Kurds were killed and 11 were wounded, mostly civilians.

This was the heaviest clash since hundreds were killed in a showdown in Sulaimaniyah last month between Peshmerga and troops that jointly controlled the city.

Mr. Dizayee said the leaders of the 12 Iraqi Kurdistan Front groups agreed to withdraw rebel forces from the three cities and to allow local Iraqi administrators to return during a meeting in Shaglaw, 40 kilometres north of Erbil Tuesday.

He added that the front leaders, including Masoud Barzani of the KDP, and Jalal Talebani of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, the two main groups, are preparing to meet to discuss the latest government proposals granting the 3½ million Iraqi Kurds a measure of autonomy.

## Israelis shell Lebanese village, clash with UNIFIL

RASHAYA, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israeli gunners shelled a village in South Lebanon Wednesday and guerrillas detonated a roadside bomb that targeted an armoured vehicle of an Israeli-allied militia.

Also Wednesday, Israeli troops clashed with Norwegian soldiers of the U.N. Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) north of the village of Kfar Shouba, said UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel.

He said an Israeli patrol opened fire with machine-guns at 10 a.m. (0800 GMT) on a Norwegian position north of Kfar Shouba, hitting it with several rounds.

"The Norwegians fired warning shots," Mr. Goksel said. "When the fire from the Israelis did not stop, the Norwegians tossed a small hand grenade near the patrol and opened fire over the Israelis' heads."

"It was after that the Israelis withdrew," he said, adding that none of the Norwegian troops was hurt during the 20-minute shootout.

Norway is the only battalion among the nine-nation UNIFIL deployed entirely inside Israel's self-styled "security zone." The other battalions are stationed in areas overlapping the zone.

Security sources said Israeli artillery gunners inside the zone fired eight 155-mm Howitzer shells at 3 a.m. (0100 GMT) on Kabrikha, within the zone of operations of UNIFIL's Irish

battalion. Beirut radio stations said an Israeli commando force advanced into Kabrikha overnight and withdrew at dawn under heavy artillery coverage. Mr. Goksel denied the radio's report.

The security sources said that around the same time, 20 unidentified blasts were heard in Zibkin, also policed by UNIFIL's Nepalese unit.

They were followed by 20 artillery rounds fired on the eastern sector north of the "security zone," said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

They said the roadside bomb exploded at 7:30 a.m. (0530 GMT) on a road in the Rihan mountain when a force of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia was patrolling the area.

They said following the explosion, SLA militiamen opened up with heavy machine-gun fire, backed by artillery from Marjayoun, the largest town in the zone.

The Muslim fundamentalist Hizbollah claimed responsibility for the attack in Rihan which links the "security zone" with the SLA-controlled town of Jezzine.

A statement released by the group in Beirut said a squad of Hizbollah's Islamic Resistance detonated the bomb, killing or wounding all the militiamen in the armoured vehicle.

Hizbollah escalated its attacks

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## Iraqi president names new interior minister

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Wednesday appointed his half-brother as interior minister in a further tightening of the inner circle of relatives holding key cabinet posts.

In a brief dispatch monitored in Nicosia, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Wathban Ibrahim Hassan was appointed by a presidential decree. It said only that he had been governor of Salah-Eddin, a province north of Baghdad whose capital is the city of Tikrit, President Saddam's hometown.

The appointment was announced a week after the outgoing minister, President Saddam's cousin Ali Hassan Al Majeed, was appointed defence minister.

Mr. Majeed replaced President Saddam's son-in-law, Hussein Kamel Hassan, who was dropped from the cabinet only a few days

after receiving the country's Mother of Battles medal, the top award.

Diplomats said the fact that Mr. Kamel kept the title of general al received along with the decoration showed that he was still a force to reckon with.

President Saddam has two other half-brothers, Barzan, who is Iraq's representative at the U.N.'s European headquarters in Geneva, and Sab'awi, who is the head of the internal security service.

A cousin, Hashim Hassan Al Majeed, is the governor of the northern oil city of Kirkuk, which is under dispute in an autonomy pact being negotiated between Iraq's rebellious Kurds and central government.

It was not immediately clear whether the new interior minister had also been appointed to the

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ALL BRANCHES OF THE



ARAB BANK

Present their best wishes

To  
HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN  
on his birthday  
and wish him many happy returns  
of the day



## FAO: Iraqis suffering from serious food shortages

ROME (Agencies) — The majority of Iraq's 18 million people are suffering from serious food shortages, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said Wednesday.

Its monthly report on the global food outlook said a recent FAO mission had "confirmed a deterioration in the food and nutrition situation."

"Serious food shortages are now affecting the majority of the population of Iraq," the FAO said.

The United Nations imposed a trade embargo on Iraq after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, preventing Baghdad from selling the oil with which it used to finance vast food imports. Food is now rationed in Iraq.

The FAO said Baghdad had started to import wheat again, with limited quantities being bought from Australia, France and Turkey, but that it was unlikely Iraq would return to the international market in 1991-92 as a significant grain buyer.

Relief workers in Baghdad estimate that Iraq used to spend \$4 billion a year on food before the Gulf crisis and that the government is only managing to provide Iraqis with about a third of their food requirements at subsidised prices.

U.N. sanctions have encouraged Iraq to try to grow more of its own food, but the FAO report said the outlook for the 1991-92 cereal crop, to be planted soon, was poor.

"Output will again be seriously constrained by shortages of agricultural inputs, machinery and spare parts," the FAO said.

It said that although Thailand had last July agreed to export 245,000 tonnes of rice to Iraq in 1991, only 45,000 tonnes had been shipped so far. It quoted unofficial market reports that a further 30,000 tonnes would be delivered soon.

U.N. needs more money

The U.N. commission responsible for removing or destroying Iraqi nuclear, chemical

and biological weapons needs about \$40 million between now and February to do its job, its deputy chairman said on Tuesday.

Robert Gallucci, a U.S. official on the special commission in charge of scrapping Baghdad's weapons of mass destruction, told a Washington seminar the commission had already spent all \$11 million allotted by the U.N. secretary-general.

A few governments had given additional contributions amounting to a few million dollars but this was nowhere near enough to cover anticipated costs.

"Between now and roughly Feb. 1 our needs are going to expand dramatically because we are going to be moving the irradiated (nuclear) fuel out of Iraq," Mr. Gallucci told the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

"Our needs in the area of fuel removal are about \$32 million between now and Feb. 1 and probably another six to eight million on top of that in operating requirements and the initial steps in chemical weapons disposal," he said.

The U.N. Security Council has stated that Iraq should pay for the costs of destroying its own weapons of mass destruction with member states making voluntary contributions until the Iraqis can be forced to come up with the money.

The U.N. secretariat believes that member states should contribute in line with their regular U.N. dues. The United States is by far the biggest contributor to the U.N. budget.

Mr. Gallucci said he did not care which method was chosen as long as funds were made available.

"So far, I can say that our operations have not been cut... but funding is an issue for us. We are concerned that states take the necessary actions so that operations are not handicapped," he said.

He said it would take up to two years to destroy Iraq's enormous stocks of chemical weapons. There were 45,000 shells or other rounds of ammunition filled with

chemicals and a further 800-1,000 tonnes of poisonous chemicals stored in canisters and oil drums, some of which were in hazardous condition or even leaking.

### Deadline on queries

The United Nations has given Iraq another month to submit a detailed account of its so-called "dual use" industries or face new U.N. search and destroy missions, a U.N. official said.

The formal deadline for a questionnaire sent to Iraq a month ago expired on Tuesday but Rolf Ekens, head of the U.N. commission in charge of scrapping Baghdad's weapons of mass destruction, said Iraq could have another month.

"Thirty days is very tough, 60 days is more reasonable," Mr. Ekens said of the extension of the deadline.

"We requested from Iraq a very detailed declaration with regard to activities in the civil, in the military field which could be supportive of acquiring again weapons of mass destruction," Mr. Ekens said.

"Our idea is to base our continued work on these declarations, which we hope will be honest and full."

"However, if Iraq does not cooperate on that very important task, we are authorised by the Security Council to find out ourselves with the same means we have used with such success so far," he said.

Mr. Ekens made the comments during a television interview and discussions afterwards with reporters on progress in destroying and monitoring in future Iraqi capabilities to produce nuclear, ballistic, chemical and biological weapons.

In summing up his work, Mr. Ekens said he thought Iraq had turned a new page and "for the first time they really understand" what was wanted.

The commission, he said, might be able to move to future compliance rather than hunting weapons caches.



**PEACE DEBATE:** Israeli soldiers check passengers at a roadblock near Bethlehem University in the occupied West Bank, where Palestinian activists Faisal Husseini and Rida Malki

debated participation in the Madrid peace conference. The soldiers sought to prevent journalists from reaching the campus but later relented.

## Kremlin talks to Afghan rebels but refuses to oust Najibullah

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet Union has begun its first direct talks with Afghan rebel leaders but is rejecting their demand that Moscow remove President Najibullah from power.

"They said: 'We will not negotiate with him and you (Moscow) must do something with him,'" Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin told reporters after several hours of talks.

"We said: 'What are we supposed to do with him? Can we interfere in your internal affairs again, from the other side?'"

The fate of Mr. Najibullah's government is the key issue in efforts to negotiate an end to the 13-year-old civil war, which has devastated Afghanistan and sent millions into exile.

The Kremlin supported the former Afghan secret police chief and his communist predecessors for years. But its influence in Kabul has diminished with the end of its nine-year military intervention in Afghanistan in 1989.

"We interfered once, we burnt our fingers, we feel ashamed of it, we want to smooth things over any way, but we do not want to interfere again from the other side," Mr. Pankin told reporters.

He said the Soviet proposals for a settlement were based on a joint U.S.-Soviet statement in September.

This included a halt to arms

supplies by the superpowers from next Jan. 1, a ceasefire, talks between the Afghan factions, international monitoring and free elections.

"We do not insist on personalities, on regimes; we just want the Afghan people to choose the way of life they want," Mr. Pankin said.

The Mujahideen rebels have steadily refused to countenance negotiations with Mr. Najibullah, whom they have long portrayed as the incarnation of evil.

Delegation leader Burhanuddin Rabbani and other rebel chiefs have invested too much credibility to back down easily on this point. They would also risk being outflanked by hardline Islamic rebel groups which refused to join in the mission to Moscow.

The Kremlin, its world stature diminished by economic and political decline, has begun to hedge its once uncritical support for Mr. Najibullah. But it is loath to abandon its protégé unconditionally.

Mr. Najibullah's government, which has defied all predictions that it would collapse without Soviet military muscle, says it will negotiate but refuses to surrender power first.

Mr. Pankin, who was accompanied in the talks by Andrei Kozlov, foreign minister of the Russian Republic, spent much of time discussing the fate of Soviet

prisoners captured by the Mujahideen during Moscow's 1979-1989 military intervention.

Mr. Rabbani's delegation met mothers of soldiers, missing or held by the Mujahideen, Monday and heard tearful appeals for the release of the remaining prisoners.

The women's initiative group says it is seeking information on 305 men.

The rebel delegation includes representatives of groups based in Iran as well as four of the "Peshawar seven," parties based in north-western Pakistan.

A fifth group, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's powerful Hezb-i-Islami, is not against talks with the Kremlin in principle but refused to accept Moscow as the venue. Two smaller groups reject any negotiations.

On Monday, the rebels met with Russian Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi, who reportedly said Russia also is willing to accept an Islamic government in Kabul.

Masoud Khalini, a member of the Afghan delegation, said Mr. Rutskoi called the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan "guaranteed."

Mr. Pankin proposed that the Soviet Union establish a permanent office in Peshawar to continue negotiations with Mujahideen groups based there.

## U.S. plans Patriot sale to Saudis

WASHINGTON (R) — The Bush administration has told the U.S. congress it plans to sell 14 batteries of Patriot anti-aircraft missiles made by Raytheon to Saudi Arabia for an estimated \$3 billion, U.S. defence officials said Tuesday.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, said formal notification of the plan was expected to go to Congress in early December after which lawmakers would have 30 days to raise objections.

The officials said they did not expect Congress to disapprove the sale of such defence equipment, which would include as many as 700 Patriots. The missiles were used with success in shooting down Iraqi Scud missiles in the Gulf war.

Each of the 14 batteries would include eight launchers.

The officials said administration representatives discussed the sale informally last week with

congressional leaders.

It comes at a time when

Washington is pushing for peace in the Gulf and Middle East and when members of Congress are pressing for a slowdown in the military build-up in the volatile region.

The Pentagon recently sent two U.S. Patriot batteries from Europe to Saudi Arabia, but defence officials said Tuesday those would be withdrawn after the Saudis began setting up their own batteries.

Officials said they did not know how long it would take to deliver the new systems.

The move follows a recent controversial announcement in Dubai by McDonnell Douglas Corp. that the Saudis have asked to buy 72 of its F-15 fighter jets worth over \$4 billion.

But Bush administration officials have reacted coolly to that report, Pentagon spokesman Pete

Williams said last week Washington had no plans to sell fighter jets in the region for at least the next several months.

He told reporters the administration wanted to give the initial phase of Middle East peace talks, recently begun in Madrid, time to run its course.

Although other U.S. firms help make the radar-guided Patriot missile, the chief beneficiary of the planned new sale to the Saudis would be Raytheon. The missiles were also used by Israel against Iraqi Scud missiles during the Gulf war.

The Pentagon has been pressing Congress to fund work on a new generation of Patriots, which might be used to shoot down more elusive targets than the relatively primitive Scuds, including modern tactical missiles, low-flying cruise missiles and radar-avoiding Stealth aircraft.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Soviet Union sends Arafat a message

TUNIS (R) — The Soviet Union has sent Yasser Arafat a message on the Madrid Middle East peace conference praising the role played by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Palestinian delegation, the Palestinian news agency Wafa said Wednesday. Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, whose message was handed to the PLO chairman Tuesday night by the Soviet ambassador to Tunis, said he "positively evaluated" the role of the two, Wafa added. Moscow was co-sponsor of the Madrid conference with the United States.

### Israeli delegation to China

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel chamber of commerce is sending a delegation to China next week in what it hopes will be "another stage" in normalising relations with the Chinese, a statement from the group said Wednesday. The step follows reports in the Israeli press speculating that China and Israel would soon establish formal diplomatic links for the first time. The chamber of commerce delegation, headed by its chairman Dani Gillerman, received an official invitation from the Chinese, the chamber statement said. "The Chinese are giving the visit great importance and it appears that this visit is another stage in the process of normalising relations between China and Israel," it added. China has never officially recognised the state of Israel. In the past, it has conditioned relations on Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories captured in the 1967 Middle East war.

### Soviet Union shows planes in Iran

NICOSIA (R) — The Soviet Union displayed military and civil aircraft to Iranian officials in Tehran for the first time Wednesday. The exhibition was brought to Iran after an international air show in Dubai at which Moscow, desperate for hard currency, offered advanced weapons systems and fighter planes like the MiG-31 and SU-27 for sale in the Middle East. The Tehran display will be open to the public from Thursday to Sunday, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported. It did not say what models were on show. Iran bought two squadrons of MiG-29s from Moscow last year.

### Mubarak: Israel too costly for Egyptians

TEL AVIV (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak says Egyptian tourists avoid Israel because it is costly, violent and offers them little they cannot see at home. "First of all, it is very expensive there," Mr. Mubarak said in a rare Israel Television interview broadcast Tuesday. "Secondly, if an Egyptian comes to you, you are still attacking each other over there." Israelis have often pointed to the meagre level of Egyptian tourism as an indication of cool relations between Israel and the only Arab state with which it has signed a peace treaty. Mr. Mubarak rejected the assertion, saying: "There is no flaw in our relations. Let us speak rationally, without getting angry. Why should (Egyptians) travel to Israel? Every day someone attacks a bus, a Palestinian attacks an Israeli, an Israeli attacks a Palestinian." Mr. Mubarak asked what Israel could offer an Egyptian tourist, saying: "What is he coming to see? The beach? We have large beaches of our own, as big as all of Israel. And I am not even mentioning the Jewish settlements."

### Iranian official wishes hostages will be freed

BEIRUT (AP) — An Iranian envoy Wednesday expressed the wish that all Western hostages in Lebanon be freed by the end of the month. Mohammad Kazem Khonsari, head of the Iranian Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department, made the remark in answer to a question at the Iranian embassy in Beirut. Asked what his expectations were after some Iranian officials predicted an end of the hostages' ordeal by the end of the year, Mr. Khonsari said: "We wish that all the hostages would be freed by the end of this month instead of waiting until the end of this year." He reiterated Iran's position that Tehran was "the first victim of hostage-taking in Lebanon" when four of its citizens — three Iranian embassy diplomats and their driver — were kidnapped in the Christian enclave north of Beirut while escaping the Israeli invasion in 1982. Right-wing militias have said the four were killed, but Iran insists on credible information on their whereabouts.

### Egypt says ties with Sudan harmed

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak has said Egyptian ties with Sudan were soured by the ruling junta's links with Hassan Tourabi, a Muslim fundamentalist leader who Mr. Mubarak says backs terrorism. "The problems started when the role of Hassan Tourabi in ruling (Sudan) and his backing for terrorist groups emerged," Mr. Mubarak was quoted in the local press as telling members of his ruling National Democratic Party Tuesday night. Mr. Tourabi was the leader of the influential National Islamic Front when Khartoum's military strongman Omar Hassan Al Bashir seized power in June 1989 and abolished all political parties. He does not hold any cabinet post in Mr. Bashir's government but diplomats say Mr. Tourabi has close links with Khartoum's rulers. Mr. Mubarak accused Mr. Tourabi of promising "to train Arab youths, including some from Egypt, in terrorist acts (at camps in) Sudan and Afghanistan."

### Tehran invites observers to Third World meeting

GENEVA (AP) — Iran, in a first, has invited several Western nations to a meeting of developing countries next week to show the Third World's openness to dialogue, an Iranian diplomat said. "This is a major step, a milestone," Iran's Ambassador to International Organisations in Geneva Siros Nasseri told a news conference. "We are open, we are ready for dialogue, we are ready for negotiations with our partners in the developed world," he said, evidently meaning developing countries as a group. Delegates from more than 100 developing countries, including many government ministers, are expected in Tehran Nov. 19-23 to coordinate positions for a quadrennial U.N. conference on trade and development next February in Colombia. Developed countries invited as observers for the first time to such a preparatory session include the Netherlands as holder of the European Community presidency, Italy, Australia, Canada, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey, the U.N. said. Hungary and Poland also were asked to attend.

## Hersh says Maxwell consulted Israeli agents on wiretapping

LONDON (R) — An editor working for publisher Robert Maxwell consulted with Israeli agents about wiretapping a rival who was working on a story about Israel's nuclear programme, a spokesman for author Seymour Hersh said Tuesday.

A British lawmaker said he had been told that Mr. Maxwell, who died last week, had been in direct contact with those behind the reported 1986 wiretap.

The target of the reported wiretap, Peter Hounam, a reporter for the Sunday Times, was working on a story about Israel's nuclear programme.

His main source, Mordechai Vanunu, a 37-year-old former technician at Israel's Dimona nuclear reactor, was convicted of treason and espionage in 1986 and is serving an 18-year prison sentence in Israel for the published revelations.

Mr. Vanunu's information suggested that Israel had stockpiled 100 nuclear weapons and could produce neutron and hydrogen bombs — giving it the world's sixth-largest nuclear arsenal. Israel has declined to answer directly allegations of its nuclear capacity.

Mr. Maxwell, 68, died at sea Nov. 5 off the Canary Islands. A Spanish pathologist said Tuesday he expected the autopsy to be completed within two weeks, and that no cause of death had been

ruled out. At a news conference in London, Matthew Evans, chairman of publishers Faber and Faber, read a statement by Mr. Hersh that laid out the wiretapping allegations.

In his book, "The Samson Option," Mr. Hersh accused Mr. Maxwell of orchestrating a campaign to discredit Mr. Vanunu, who offered information and photos about Israel's nuclear programme to newspapers in 1986.

Mr. Hersh alleged that Nick Davies, then foreign editor of Mr. Maxwell's Daily Mirror, was instrumental in betraying Mr. Vanunu to Israeli agents.

Mr. Hersh's statement Tuesday said Mr. Davies met with a private detective and Israeli agents in Geneva on Sept. 25, 1986. The statement quoted Mr. Davies as denying any knowledge of such a meeting.

Asked for comment, Mirror Group newspapers had no response. Attempts to reach Mr. Davies were unsuccessful.

Rupert Allason, a Conservative member of parliament, said he had been told that Mr. Hersh had evidence of a telephone call being made to Mr. Maxwell concerning the alleged wiretap.

Mr. Allason said he had no details of the alleged call to Mr. Maxwell. He urged Mr. Hersh and his publishers to place all

their evidence in the public domain.

Mr. Allason said Mr. Maxwell became aware of the evidence about the Geneva meeting on the Saturday before he died.

"It is also my belief that there was a meeting held at Mirror Group headquarters on Sunday at which the existence of a videotape or a time-elapsed series of photographs was discussed," Mr. Allason said.

Those pictures, Mr. Allason added, were taken by the detectives.

Mr. Allason said he understood that the private detective approached by Mr. Davies and the Israelis was "very seriously concerned about the contact of the approach and that he took measures to record his dealings with the people who he met."

Mr. Hersh said the detective involved in the Geneva meeting refused the wiretapping job, and another private investigator took over.

Mr. Maxwell and Mirror Group newspapers last month filed libel suits against Mr. Hersh and his publishers, and against Mr. Allason after he raised some of Mr. Hersh's allegations in parliament.

Mr. Davies was subsequently fired by Mr. Maxwell, purportedly because he lied about a meeting with an American arms dealer.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 ..... Lola et les Sardines  
18:30 ..... Maggy  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Circus  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... The Simpsons  
21:00 ..... Sherlock Holmes  
21:30 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Feature film

### PRAYER TIMES

06:25 ..... Fajr  
07:54 ..... (Sunset) Dhuhr  
11:15 ..... Dhuhr  
14:15 ..... 'Asr  
16:45 ..... Maghrib  
18:45 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swallow  
Tel: 61740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.  
62785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 62490  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
63740  
De la Salle Church Tel. 66177

### TERMINALS

Terminal Church Tel: 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
62541

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel.  
62543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel.  
771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.  
77261

St. Chabanian Church Tel. 771751

Assyrian International Church Tel.  
827981, 683326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.  
811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-  
day Saints Tel. 823204 and 649322

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

### WEATHER

Reliefs supplied by the Department of  
Meteorology

It will be partly cloudy with a chance  
for scattered showers. Winds will be  
northwesterly moderate. In Amman, it  
will be partly cloudy with northerly  
moderate winds and calm seas.

Min./max. temp.

Amman ..... 10 / 21

Aqaba ..... 16 / 26

Deserts ..... 08 / 24

Jordan Valley ..... 13 / 28

### USEFUL TELEPHONE

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Kayed Halayeh ..... 793222

Dr. Yafya Abdul Rahman ..... 736072

Dr. Fakhri Abu Tayeh ..... 883880

Dr. Hisham Kassar ..... 790286

Firas pharmacy ..... 661912

Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336

Al Asma pharmacy ..... 67025

Natrowski pharmacy ..... 623672

Al Salem pharmacy ..... 636730

Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945

Shuqash pharmacy ..... 676650

IRBID:

Dr. Hamdi Barham ..... (—)

Al Shamsa pharmacy ..... (985298)

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111

Civil Defence Emergency ..... 630341

Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade ..... 891228

Blood Bank ..... 775121

Highway Police ..... 934302

Traffic Police ..... 896390

Public Security Department ..... 630521

Hotel Complaints ..... 626800

Price Complaints ..... 661176

Water and Sewerage ..... 897467

Complaints ..... 934302

Complaints ..... 787111

Telephone Information  
(directory assistance) ..... 121

Overseas Calls ..... 010230

Central Amman Telephone  
Repairs ..... 623101

Abdell Telephone Repairs ..... 661101

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 ..... Lola et les Sardines

18:30 ..... Maggy

19:00 ..... News in French

19:15 ..... Circus



## Rains cause severe damage to farms

**NORTHERN JORDAN VALLEY (Petra)** — Several farms sustained severe damage due to heavy rainfall in the northern Jordan Valley region over the past two days.

Saleh Ubeidat, district governor of the region, said that he toured parts of the affected farmlands and directed emergency teams to help repair damaged roads, re-open culverts and do other necessary work to help the farmers.

He said that his office was preparing a detailed report to be sent to the concerned authorities in Amman. According to the report, the areas of Balawneh and Abi Obeidat suffered the worst damage, with at least 40 dunams of land grown with vegetables destroyed along with nearly one tonne of potato and onions.

The streams of water carried away 50 olive tree saplings and destroyed irrigation networks and water sprinklers, the report said.

Working in cooperation with the civil defence units in the region, the district governor said that people were advised to stay away from low-lying areas and wadis and to move to safer ground.

## UNRWA issues appeal for funds

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — Commissioner general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) Uter Turkmen has issued an appeal to donor countries to offer financial and in-kind assistance to the agency to help it carry out its humanitarian services to Palestinian refugees.

In his appeal issued in Vienna Tuesday, Mr. Turkmen referred to the huge number of Palestinian refugees who returned to Jordan and Palestine in the wake of the Gulf crisis and the severe difficulties they are facing at present. Following is the text of the commissioner general's appeal:

Rapid population growth among the refugees and continued instability in the Middle East region place new pressures on UNRWA's limited budget each year. Today, with much of the region still feeling the after effects of the Gulf crisis and Lebanon after a long civil war, the agency finds itself unable to meet urgent needs. Therefore, UNRWA Commissioner-General Uter Turkmen in a letter to donor governments on Nov. 8 made special appeals to the international community for extraordinary funds.

Of some 250,000 returnees to Jordan since August of last year, it is estimated that the majority were Palestinian refugees. Several thousand Palestinians returned to Gaza over the last year. Many returnees had lost home, livelihood and a lifetime of savings overnight. Many who had supported extended family members in Jordan and Gaza returned to find themselves dependent on UNRWA services. Some of the institutions most affected by the large number of returnees, and least equipped to cope with them, have been the UNRWA schools.

Seven thousand returning children were added to UNRWA schools in Jordan this year; 1,300 in Gaza.

UNRWA has appealed for \$2 million for Gaza to build 30 classrooms, hire 35 teachers and construct sanitary facilities. For Jordan, UNRWA has appealed for \$4 million to build an elementary school, a preparatory school, hire 30 teachers, construct 17 classrooms, provide emergency medical help and offer a limited number of low interest loans to help create jobs. Only through the generosity of the donor community will UNRWA be able to implement these plans.

In his letter of appeal, the commissioner-general said, "At this crucial time in the history of the region, I wish to draw your attention to some special and pressing needs affecting Palestinian refugees, and to seek your government's financial support for extraordinary measures of assistance which UNRWA intends to provide, but which are beyond its capacity to fund out of its regular budget."



**TRAINEE GRADUATION** — A group of 19 trainees have completed a course on caring for horses in Jordan organised by the Animal Health Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with Edinburgh University in Britain and

the International Society for the Care of Horses in the United States. The trainees, who spent one month receiving theoretical and practical training, received their diplomas from Agriculture Ministry Secretary General Ghaleb Abu Arrabi.

## Petroleum workers call for pay raise, better benefits

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Workers in the petroleum and petrochemical sector Tuesday reaffirmed their earlier demand that the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) give them a pay hike of JD 20 monthly, increase its contribution to the Staff Provident Fund, raise the medical insurance allocation to JD 250 per annum from JD 150 and cover the full medical costs in respect of the employees.

The workers demand was expressed by Ahmad Haddad, president of the General Association of Workers in Petroleum and

Petrochemical Industries and Yassin Matarnah, the association's secretary.

Speaking at a press conference, both Mr. Matarnah and Mr. Haddad said that the association's general assembly adopted a decision last July to go on strike but later stopped the strike in view of the intervention by the previous labour minister, Abdul Karim Al Dughni. Mr. Dughni attempted to settle the dispute with the company's management.

They noted that the minister decided to refer their case to a

conciliatory body after failing to solve it with the company's management. The case was then referred to the Industrial Court, which held 12 sessions and decided to grant 15 per cent of the workers a JD 5 pay increase beginning of next year.

The court also decided to increase the medical insurance allocations by JD 50 per annum.

Mr. Haddad and Mr. Matarnah contested the decision, saying that it does not solve their problem.

The JPRC employs some 3,400 employees.



**JAPANESE NATIONAL DAY** — The Japanese ambassador in Amman, Tadayuki Nonoyama, gave a reception at his residence on Tuesday on the occasion of the Japanese National

Day anniversary. The reception was attended by senior government officials, members of Parliament and the diplomatic corp in Amman.

## Jordan seeking extradition of suspect in Tel assassination

By Serene Halasa

**Special to the Jordan Times**  
**AMMAN** — Jordan confirmed Wednesday that it has made an official request to the Swedish government to extradite a 47-year-old man suspected of involvement in the 1971 murder of Jordanian Prime Minister Wasfi Tel.

"We have officially asked the Swedish government to extradite the suspect," said Mutassem Belbeisi, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry. "They (the Swedish government) are still studying our request."

The suspect, a Palestinian whose name was withheld in accordance with Swedish legal practice, was arrested at a refugee centre in southern Sweden on Oct. 4 under a warrant issued by Jordanian authorities. He has been held in custody without charges pending the extradition request.

Prime Minister Wasfi Tel was assassinated in November 1971 in Cairo while attending



Wasfi Tel

the Arab League Defence Council meetings. Although the suspect is not thought to be the actual killer of the Jordanian prime minister, police say that he is suspected of being one of four men who took part in the assassination.

It is not clear what the Swedish government will do with the extradition request, handed formally to the Swedish embassy in Amman on Tuesday.

Although Swedish authorities have repeatedly expressed their keenness to help curb international terrorism, its policy prevents them from extraditing criminals, especially when the suspect could face the death penalty.

Jordan's justice minister, Tayseer Kanaan, indicated that in view of existing legislation in Jordan, it might be impossible for the Jordanian government to furnish any guarantee that the suspect will not be executed if found guilty.

"If he was to be handed over to the Jordanian authorities, he will receive a fair trial and if he is found guilty he will be executed," Mr. Kanaan said.

According to Jordanian law, if one is found guilty of being an accessory to murder then he is treated like the killer himself, he said.

Mr. Kanaan said that he did not know whether there was any kind of treaty or legal arrangements between the Jordanian and Swedish governments binding one or the other to extradite criminals.

Under Jordanian law, if a certain period of time — usually 10 years — elapses in a murder case without any legal pursuit of the matter, then the case is dropped. But in this case, a warrant was issued for the arrest of the suspect, thus maintaining the validity of the case beyond the duration specified in Jordanian law.

"Public right drops after the elapse of 10 years from the date of the crime, unless legal procedures were pursued all these years," Mr. Kanaan said. "A warrant is considered part of these procedures," the minister added, referring to the warrant against the suspect issued by Jordanian police four years ago.

The formal Jordanian extradition request will be handled by Sweden's national prosecutor, the supreme court and the government, which will make the final decision on the fate of the suspect.

The suspect will stand trial in Sweden if the Swedish government refuses to comply with the Jordanian request.

## German firm to do restoration work at Petra

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — The German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) Wednesday signed an agreement with the Ministry of Tourism to finance and implement a project designed to help protect the ancient Nabatean city of Petra and carry out restoration work at the site.

Under the agreement, the GTZ will offer Deutschmarks 1.6 million to cover the cost of the first two years of the project, which is scheduled to be completed in seven years. A specialist in restoration work from Germany will be stationed at the ancient Nabatean city during the period, directing the restoration and repair work at the site, according to the agreement.

The GTZ is also to provide the necessary equipment for the project.

Two German specialists from the GTZ, Michael Kuehlenthal and H. Fischer, signed the agreement along with a team acting for the Ministry of Tourism comprised of His Royal Highness Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid, Dr. Abdullah Touqan, president of the Higher Council for Science and Technology, Dr. Ali Mahafza, president of Yarmouk University and Dr. Fawzi Ziyad from the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.

The GTZ, under the agreement, will train officials and technicians from the Department of Antiquities and Yarmouk University on the research and restoration work to be carried out at Petra.

Petra, located 260 kilometres south west of Amman, is also the focus of attention of the Petra National Trust (PNT).

## Jordan Press Association bans writer for talking to Israel

Staff and Agency Reports

**AMMAN** — Jordan's Press Association on Wednesday dismissed journalist Sultan Hattab and banned him from writing because of interviews he gave to Israeli television during the Middle East peace conference in Madrid.

The decision was adopted by administrative council of the press association, which branded Mr. Hattab's interviews illegal and accused him of attempting to normalise cultural relations with "the Zionist entity."

In a statement, the council condemned what it termed Mr. Hattab's "disgraceful behaviour" and said his television interviews constituted "high treason of Jordanian laws."

The press association council's statement ran as follows:

"The council discussed the shameful act of Sultan Hattab who gave an interview with Israeli Television during the Madrid peace conference and considered it as a dangerous precedent, violating Jordanian laws which ban any contact with the Israeli enemy."

"As the Jordan Press Association was the first organisation to place Arab journalists on a black list for dealing with Israel or calling for normalising relations with the Zionist entity, and in accordance with previous association resolutions, the council strongly condemns Hattab's shameful act and reiterates its

strong opposition to normalising relations with the Israeli enemy in any form."

"Since the Hattab interview with Israeli Television constitutes a violation of the Arab boycott rules against Israel and a violation of the association's law and regulations which consider any contact with the Zionist enemy as a capital treason, and in accordance with Articles 46 and 50 of the association law issued in 1983, the council has decided to dismiss Sultan Al Hattab from the association and ban him from serving as a journalist."

"The name of Sultan Al Hattab is to be added to the association's black list and the decision will be distributed to various organisations and unions as well as journalists unions locally and abroad."

"The association will request from all press institutions and newspapers in Jordan to prevent Sultan Al Hattab from working for them in accordance with association law," the statement concluded.

The measure means that Mr. Hattab cannot work as a journalist in this Kingdom, where the majority of people opposed normalisation of relations with Israel before it withdraws from lands it captured from Jordan, Egypt and Syria during the 1967 Middle East war.

"I am surprised about the press association's unfair decision," Mr. Hattab said in an interview. "I believe that there are attempts

to sabotage peace efforts in this region."

"But I shall stick to my views... I shall struggle using my pen. I shall continue to demand my rights and I shall never give up," he said.

Mr. Hattab, 39, the former editor-in-chief of the pro-government Al Shaab newspaper and a prominent columnist in the liberal Al Ra'i, will not be able to appeal the council's decision.

The move came three days after Jordan Writers Union adopted a similar measure citing "moral punishment on Mr. Hattab for his contacts with Israel."

Under Jordanian law, a journalist cannot practise his profession without obtaining credentials from the Information Ministry after the approval of the press association. A Jordanian writer must be a member of the Writers Association.

Jordan is officially in a state of war with its western neighbour, Israel. But Jordanian and Israeli officials met, shook hands and discussed peace prospects during the peace conference in Madrid last month.

Mr. Hattab, a native of the Israeli-occupied West Bank city of Hebron, said he talked to Israeli Television to "defend and explain Jordan's official position, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from Arab lands, the implementation of international legitimacy and the restoration of Palestinians' legitimate rights."

## WHAT'S GOING ON

- ★ Exhibition entitled "The Arab Traditional House, Selected Items of our Heritage" by Hana Sadeq Bordon at Baladna Gallery, Gardens Street.
- ★ Exhibition of traditional embroidery and handmade items at the Marriott Hotel.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings depicting scenes from Agaba and Jordan by Jordanian artist Kamal Shalabi Yassin at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Ibrahim Shalabi at Al Orthodox Club.

## JORDAN TIMES

TEL: 667171

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### PSD brigadier promoted

**AMMAN (Petra)** — A Royal decree was issued Wednesday promoting Brigadier Abdul Rahman Al Udwan of the Public Security Department (PSD) to the rank of major general. Brig. Udwan, who is PSD assistant director general, was awarded his promotion by PSD Director General Fadel Ali.

### Road accidents increase

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Seven persons were killed and 174 injured in 420 road accidents which occurred in Jordan in the first week of November. A Traffic Department statement said that the accidents rose by 37 over those of the previous week but the number of deaths dropped by three.

### Minister leaves for Damascus

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabarti went to Damascus Wednesday on a three-day visit to Syria. In a pre-departure statement, the minister said that he will meet his Syrian counterpart and senior officials to discuss bilateral cooperation in tourism related affairs.

### Minister meets with USAID team

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Razzak Tubeishat Wednesday met with a team from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to discuss protection of the environment in Jordan. He urged USAID to offer assistance to the ministry to help it carry out such projects and to set up children's gardens and libraries in various municipalities.

### Stamps marking King's birthday issued

**AMMAN (Petra)** — The Post Office and Postal Savings Corporation is issuing a new set of postage stamps marking His Majesty King Hussein's birthday. The stamps, entitled "Donating Blood to Others is a National Duty," will be available in post offices around the Kingdom. The King was the first blood donor when he opened the blood bank in 1957, according to corporation Director Abdullah Al Jazi. Dr. Jazi said the stamps will be of two denominations of 80 and 160 fils.

### Justice minister visits court

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Justice Minister Tayseer Kanaan Wednesday visited the First Instance Court in Madaba, 30 kilometres south of here and met its judges and staff to discuss the court's needs. The minister was briefed on the court's work and judicial issues.

## On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's Birthday

### Al Istiklal Club

presents

## Ukraine Ballet Group

in concert



at the Palace of Culture Al Hussein Sports City at 8 p.m. on:

- Friday Nov. 15 — Giselle Ballet
- Saturday Nov. 16 — Swan Lake Ballet
- Sunday Nov. 17 — Nut Cracker Ballet
- Monday Nov. 18 — Carmen Ballet
- Tuesday Nov. 19 — Giselle Ballet
- Wednesday Nov. 20 — Swan Lake Ballet
- Friday Nov. 22 — Nut Cracker Ballet
- Saturday Nov. 23 — Carmen Ballet

- Tickets are available at:
  - Al Hussein Sports City.
  - Phoenix Cafeteria and Gallery, Gardens Street.
  - Zahrat Al Mad'een Mill — Jubilee Circle.
  - Abba and Artar Stores, Jabal Luweibdeh.
  - Safeway International.
  - Al Tawil Tours Agency, near Safeway.
  - Geneva Coffeshop.
  - Music Box / Al Sweilhiyyeh, the Eighth Circle.
  - Al Shallah Restaurant, the Gardens Street.
  - Pana Pizza, opposite Al Ra'i Newspaper.
  - Rawan Wool, Gardens Street-Da'san Centre.



## NEW ENGLISH SCHOOL

KHALDA, AMMAN

A Chemistry graduate is required to teach this subject full-time to students up to and including I.G.C.S.E. and "A" level.

Applicants must be able to teach fluently in the English medium to highly motivated, intelligent students and should be able to offer considerable familiarity with, and experience in, the British examination system at this specialist level. Prospective candidates should be able to start work immediately.

Those interested are invited to apply in writing, enclosing two references and a full, up-dated curriculum vitae, to Mrs. Ophelia Bishouty, director of the school, by noon on Tuesday 19 November 1991.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the school on 816893 or 827153/4. Interviews will take place on Thursday 21 November, 1991.



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation  
Established 1975  
جريدة يمنية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

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Jordan Times advertising department.

## An occasion to remember

TODAY'S celebration of His Majesty King Hussein's 56th birthday is a propitious occasion to pay tribute not only to his wise and courageous leadership but also to his unwavering drive and indispensable role in bringing this troubled region a step closer towards peace. What adds significance to His Majesty's historic decision to spearhead peace efforts is the fact that it has been made while the country has steadily moved towards achieving operational democracy and political pluralism.

It was no accident of history that parliamentary democracy in the Kingdom was launched over two years ago. The King knew and acted upon the need of Jordan and Jordanians to introduce the democratic process in a bid to involve the people themselves in the decisions that would eventually shape their future whether over the issue of war and peace or the political and economic restructuring of the country on the eve of the far-reaching changes that engulfed the entire world. So, as the King head the drive towards honourable peace in the region and modernisation in the country, the people stood side by side with to fulfill these dreams and ambitions.

In retrospect, the King's political life has been characterised by one giant and bold decision after the other. In the process, His Majesty took on the mission of consolidating the existence, well-being and progress of the Kingdom where his great grandfather the late King Abdullah had left off about four decades ago. Yet of all the awesome responsibilities that the monarch had to shoulder, the most recent resolution to proceed on the path of waging peace in the area stands out as perhaps the most daring and consequential of them all. Surely his steps in the path of peace have not come easy or lightly but as a result of decades long bitter sweet experiences from all sides. This long voyage of ruling in highly versatile and volatile eras has obviously hardened his resolve to do what is right for his people and nation. In more ways than one, Jordan's trek into the unknown is fraught with danger. But it may still crown his long list of achievements and put Jordan on the right course not only towards prosperity and security but also political sophistication and maturity on par with the best there is.

The only worthy gift that our people can present to their monarch on his birthday is to assist and support him in these trying times, and to give peace its chance. The occasion calls for King and subjects to reflect on and shoulder together their awesome responsibilities and today is the time to do just that.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

WHATEVER Israeli leaders like Shamir and Sharon say is not important and does not carry real weight because the whole peace process is in the hands of the United States, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Wednesday. The paper said that the United States holds the wheels of the train of peace and has the power to move it towards its destination undisturbed by the Israeli leaders' statements. Ever since Washington came up with its initiative to end the Arab-Israeli conflict, all eyes were focused on U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and his shuttle mission in the Middle East because, the paper said, it is in Washington's power to bring the aspired peace to the region and put an end to Israel's arrogance. The paper said that the Arabs have the power only to say whether they accept a formula offered them through the peace negotiations or not but, weak and disorganised as they are, they can not force Israel by themselves to leave the Arab territories, and can not impose conditions on Israel. Therefore, the paper said, the Arabs are only counting on the United States to prove its credibility and to show the world that it respects the international legality and imposes it on all parties on equal terms. The paper said the real battle for peace is not between the Arabs and Israel but rather between the world community, led by the United States, and the application of Security Council resolutions which had been rejected by the Jewish state.

Al Dustour daily referred in an editorial to a decision by Israel's parliament placing the occupied Golan Heights off-limits for negotiations and said it was meant as a manoeuvre and a way of provoking the Syrians. Ever since the convening of the Madrid conference, Israeli leaders had been intent on taking decisions and carrying out actions, like the aggression against Lebanon, for the sake of aborting the negotiations, the paper said. Among Israel's evil designs is the latest decision to plant yet more settlements on the occupied Syrian territory, the paper said. It said that although these decisions and actions can not alter the situation, they can neither legalise Israel's occupation. Their adoption at this particular juncture was meant to sabotage the coming bilateral talks which aim at implementing U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. Israel realises that such decisions concerning the Golan Heights can by no means encourage the Syrians to make peace with it nor can they force the other Arab parties to end their hostility towards Israel, said the paper. For this reason, the Israeli leaders continue to defy the world community's will and reject its resolutions in clear defiance of the co-sponsors of the Madrid conference and the world community at large, the paper added. It said that it is the duty of the superpowers to put an end to Israel's poisoning of the atmosphere on the eve of the bilateral negotiations which the superpowers had planned as a prelude to a lasting peace.

## Reflections

# Don't pay the ransom

IN its Saturday edition, Al-Dustour newspaper reported that the Cabinet-to-be will boast no less than twenty eight ministers so as to accommodate the ministerial aspirations of yet more MPs. As I read with mounting interest about the prime minister's valiant efforts to alleviate the overriding concern of the legislative branch of government, namely the divvying up of ministerial booty and other ceremonial prizes, my mind wandered off to an old comic scene in which a buffoon holds a number of people hostage by pointing a pistol to his own head while the "hostages" plead with him for their freedom. Similarly, the Parliament, which has clearly lost all sense of collective purpose, is holding the nation hostage to the personal ambitions of its members by threatening to bring down the Cabinet of one of its own.

Suddenly, I was struck by something akin to a thunderbolt and jolted out of my reverie. It took me a while to realise that it was an idea, since I haven't had one of those for quite some time. But what an idea it was! If we must acquiesce to the Parliament before it blows the first parliamentary Cabinet to smithereens, then why stop at twenty eight portfolios? Why not forty-one? This way, no government will ever have to worry about a vote of no confidence again. Additional benefits include hiring more civil servants (we could never have enough of them) and increasing by a half the areas in which the bureaucracy can reach out and touch the people.

Or we can tell the Parliament to pull the trigger. Better still, we can have a non-parliamentary cabinet that is compatible, enlightened and has the means and the will to set the country firmly on a course towards a pre-determined station (e.g. to become a NIC, a newly-industrialised country, by the year 2000). Such a cabinet will remain in power until political parties contest the next

parliamentary elections and the winning party can be invested with the executive authority.

This last option is both rational and correct. Here and the reasons why:

1. The enormity of the challenges facing Jordan calls for an extraordinary cabinet which combines a high degree of professional competence with exceptionally clear vision and selfless dedication. Furthermore, this "dream" cabinet must be in total agreement on priorities and policies so as to be able to mend a host of structural defects which form an obstinate impediment to economic and social progress.

The eleventh Parliament is conspicuous in its shortage of relevant professional and technical qualifications. This and the fact that you cannot get ten parliamentarians to agree on anything other than a policy of Islamist or socialist populism render it impossible to form an effective parliamentary government.

2. When party politics comes into effect, there will be a long period of political posturing and infighting. Same policies will be the main casualty of this testing process. Therefore, the only time available to undertake the necessary structural reforms is during the interim period before the onset of party politics. This may be the last chance to have a technically proficient cabinet that can institutionalise basic reforms in a way that cannot be easily reversed by party politicians. It can also be argued that the proper cabinet to oversee the formation of political parties and the next elections is a neutral professional cabinet with no party affiliations.

3. There is no democratic rationale for bringing legislators into the cabinet. Executive authority is needed only for the implementation of a national policy platform or agenda. The last elections were not contested by political parties but by candidates who ran on personal merits and not on the basis of a national agenda. In fact, no group of legislators has bothered to formulate a comprehensive national agenda even after getting elected. So what is the basis for their ministerial claims?

It cannot be parliamentary traditions because Jordanian tradition does not support such claims. And it cannot be democratic precepts. In the world's richest democracy, for example, it is unconstitutional for a congressman or a senator to become a cabinet member unless he first resigns his legislative seat. More importantly, the electorate and most candidates, including the prime minister, made clear during the last elections their opposition to members of parliament combining both legislative and executive roles. The wish of the people should count for something in a democracy.

Having said all of this, I can see now that acquiescing to the legislators' demands is a thoroughly bad option. Not only is the parliamentary "jamboree" cabinet a stationary vehicle that is going nowhere, but the ongoing and seemingly eternal haggling over ministerial prizes is both demeaning and debilitating to the country and its institutions of government. The good name and reputation of the Kingdom of Jordan, cultivated laboriously over four decades, is far too high a ransom to pay just to fulfill the ambitions of a few political mavericks.

By Naseer Aruri

## The road to Madrid and beyond

EIGHT Middle East shuttles in seven months, paving the road to Madrid, constitute America's most sustained effort on behalf of an Arab-Israeli rapprochement in nearly a quarter century. There are three main reasons for its so far relative success in contrast to the failures of previous U.S. attempts, from those of William Rogers (1969) to those of George Shultz (1988): the collapse of the USSR, the Gulf war and the deliberately ambiguous character of Mr. Baker's diplomacy, which devoted considerable time to talks about talks. From now on, American success or failure will depend on the pace of transition from the structure to the substance of negotiations and Washington's willingness and ability to mould that substance with specific proposals.

The strategic imperatives for settlement

The dramatic transformation of the strategic and political landscape of the Middle East has provided President George Bush with an opportunity to shape a new structure of relationships in which an Arab-Israeli settlement becomes a U.S. national interest. U.S. strategic planners now envisage a post-cold war redefinition of the world in which economic rather than military power will be the catalyst for change, and in which the Middle East, as a potential source of capital, will rest securely in the North American sphere. Given that U.S. relations with Japan and the European Community will have to consume the larger portion of American energies during the next phase, settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict becomes not only desirable but also necessary from the U.S. vantage point.

Stability was at the core of Mr. George Shultz's diplomacy which aimed to reduce the impact of the intifada in 1988 to manageable proportions. The potential effect of a movement, based on civil disobedience, empowerment and self-reliance, on the stability of the Arab World as well as on American public opinion provided the impetus for Mr. Shultz's endeavour to contain the intifada. The failure of the Arabs and the Palestinians to translate the power of the intifada into concrete diplomatic gains not only simplified Mr. Shultz's task, but created an opportunity for his

successor to embark on the project of stabilisation on terms stimulated not by the intifada (whose card had already been played in vain in November 1988), but by Israel, whose "election plan" of May 1989 was declared by Mr. James Baker "the only game in town." The new "opportunity," however, eluded Mr. Baker when Mr. Shamir renounced his plan in the spring of 1990, despite the potential of a Middle East settlement within an Israeli framework.

Mr. Baker, however, was to have a second "window of opportunity," now bolstered by objective and material changes occurring at the regional and global levels, which was not dependent, as before, on the imperatives of Israeli domestic politics and Mr. Shamir's shifting moods. The Gulf war has effectively demolished the official Arab consensus on Palestine, eroded Arab solidarity and exposed regime insecurity in the Gulf. The illusion of Arab defence and the higher interest are now eclipsed by the spectacle of kings, sheikhs and presidents ingratiating themselves with Washington, thus enabling it to deal with them bilaterally and largely on the basis of narrowly construed interests rather than as a solid bloc with a nationalist and Palestinian agenda.

Strategic asset or expensive liability?

The Soviet eclipse has reinforced Mr. Baker's second opportunity, and produced an added imperative for a reassessment of the U.S.-Israeli special relationship. A diminished Soviet "threat" is simply incompatible with the notion of a strategic asset. In fact Israel is coming to look more and more like an expensive liability. The American public is less inclined to give foreign aid, now that a Soviet "threat" has been removed from Washington's foreign policy lexicon, and as domestic needs assume urgent and renewed concern in the midst of recession. The recent finding of a combined Wall Street Journal and NBC public opinion polls (Oct. 15, 1991), which reveals that the percentage of Americans who would give aid to the Soviet Union (58 per cent) exceeds that of those

who would give to Israel (44 per cent), is significant.

The strategic imperatives for a modified U.S. policy in the Middle East, which derive from the end of the cold war and the Gulf war victory, may not be sufficient in themselves to produce a viable peace and the required stability. For the unfolding relationships of the U.S. in the region are complex. The imbalance of power in the region itself creates a new dynamic which impels the sole superpower to redefine its own national interest against the backdrop of the new realities. In that context, enhanced U.S. pre-eminence will take precedence over Israel's own aspirations for regional dominance. Washington is likely to dust off previous strategic blueprints of the Baghdad Pact and the "consensus of strategic concern" which would help incorporate the active Arab components of "Desert Storm" and the passive Israeli partner into a new Middle East order. The Arab parties which refrained from extending blessings to the destruction of Iraq (Jordan and the Palestinians) are placed on probation. Their incorporation into the new regional order will be dependent on the progress and outcome of the Madrid process. Meanwhile that process itself will be influenced by the degree of cooperation which the Bush administration is willing to show its Arab allies and their appendages.

All of this implies that Washington's advantageous position vis-a-vis the Arabs and Israel will offer it a new flexibility, which, if it chooses to utilise it, can enhance the desired regional stability. That prospects is linked to America's perception of the roles which Israeli security and Palestinian activism are likely to play in the next phase.

Reduced leverage

The concept of Israeli security is no longer likely to be the green light entrenching the status quo in its favour at the expense of America's higher interests and designs. The recent controversy over the loan guarantees represents a qualitative change in Washington's diplomatic style. The linkage concept, which the Bush administration laboured stubbornly to keep out of pre-

Gulf diplomacy, is being utilised now by the U.S. administration in its search for an updated basis for its special relationship with Israel. The aborted "showdowns" over the loan guarantees represented an initial victory of sorts for President Bush in an arena in which "humanitarian" values were highlighted by American Jewish activists and their legislative representatives while strategic considerations were relegated to the sidelines. The U.S. national security concerns are now centred on the Japanese trade surplus "threat" and the shape and scope of an integrated Europe and America's role in it. Thus Israel's leverage in Washington is reduced; hence its tenacious adhesion to "not a single inch," the mad rush to build colonial settlements and the resultant discord with America.

The Palestinian dimension

U.S. strategic planners have already made corresponding reassessments of their estimates of the potential for regional destabilisation of Palestinian activism. The major difference, however, is that unlike the revised estimate of Israel's value, which is subtle, Washington's current estimate of the Palestinian "threat" appears unequivocal. Deprived of solid and unified Arab backing in the negotiations, despite the Damascus meetings, isolated from its constituencies in the occupied territories, the Gulf, Syria and Lebanon, and faced with economic, ideological, and governance crises, the PLO is seen by the U.S. administration as the weakest link. The perception is apparent in the structure and style of Mr. Baker's diplomacy which treats the Palestinians as unequal.

There was a deliberate ambiguity in his diplomacy which left the various parties considerable room for individual interpretation and even self-delusion; it was designed to secure unanimous consent to attend the conference. But after the opening speeches, the urge to tackle specific issues will replace the need for ambiguity, which has already fulfilled its task. Mr. Baker's mission will then be challenged by the aggrieved and the recalcitrant. The vague boundaries between substance and procedure which kept Mr. Baker's mission alive will have to

be defined more closely. For many substantive issues were thinly camouflaged as procedural arrangements. A few examples suffice:

1. The issue of Palestinian representation is not a matter of procedure; it is substantive par excellence. Mr. Baker's acquiescence to Israel's demand that exclusion of diaspora and Jerusalem Palestinians be excluded renders Palestinian national rights, including their internationally recognised rights of return and self-determination, questionable and negotiable. It also lends a certain credence to the Israeli claim on Jerusalem, despite the well established international position, to which the U.S. itself is committed. The issue of who represents the Israelis, Syrians, Jordanians etc. did not arise and could not have arisen.

2. The much publicised two-track approach represents a disingenuous attempt to sidestep the central issue in the 43-year-old conflict. Issues of arms control, water resources, regional security and the environment did not arise out of an ideological conflict between the Arab and Israel. They derive naturally from the central issue — Palestine, which is the root cause of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The two-track concept, therefore, is not a procedural issue, but a substantive one packaged in procedural wrappings. While the direction of Mr. Baker's track is parallel, the tracks themselves are integral and complementary.

The real challenge  
For these reasons, Mr. Baker's

methodology is bound to be challenged to become more in keeping with the objective conditions which rendered the mission necessary in the first place. The imperatives for change and the change itself will have to be synchronised.

While the objective conditions imply a reduction of Israeli influence, the concessions, which allowed issues of substance to be treated merely as matters of procedure, were made solely by the Palestinians and the Arabs. Such asymmetry has already caused Syria to threaten a boycott of the third phase (multilateral talks) unless progress is made in bilateral negotiations on the territorial question. The imbalance is bound to anger the Arab people sooner or later, despite their leaders' present docility and subservient demeanour. And such indignation can easily be exploited by an intransigent Israel which views the peace process as a belated threat to its ongoing absorption of the land, its fragmentation of the Palestinian community and its determination to pre-empt astute in formation. The real challenge to Mr. Baker and Mr. Bush is not only to bridge the gap between the Arabs and Israel, but also between the objective conditions which propelled U.S. diplomacy towards Madrid, and the quality of change Madrid is expected to produce. That is going to depend on the pace at which specific proposals replace the heretofore necessary ambiguity. It will also depend on whether President Bush transfers the substantive positions of the U.S. from the realm of the abstract to that of the tangible and the applied. — Middle East International.

Dr. Aruri is professor of political science at Northeastern Massachusetts University.

## LETTERS

### A happy occasion

To the Editor:

The 14th, of November is a national holiday for Jordan. It is our beloved King's birthday. Every year on that date we, Jordanians, celebrate the happy occasion with all sorts of festivities and activities.

King Hussein's birthday is not only a happy occasion, but a day for expressing our gratitude to our beloved and wise leader who, since ascending to the throne in 1953, has been giving Jordan a great portion of his time, care and affection. The blessings of social stability and progress in every aspect of life that we enjoy today are mainly due to our King's wise leadership, devotion and clear vision. So, we celebrate not just for fun but to thank the almighty God for giving us a great leader.

We celebrate to remember the past, appreciate the present and plan for the future. What has been achieved in Jordan during the past three decades is near miracle. For us, young Jordanians, the occasion must be a source of pride and inspiration. It must give us imagination and impetus to make Jordan a better and more beautiful place to live in. It must drive us to think of ways and means to minimise poverty, to cultivate every inch of land, to cover hills with green forests, to build more dams and reservoirs to store water for irrigation, to increase agricultural production, to produce more consumer goods, to cut down on imports and to start new projects to provide jobs for the army of university, college and high-school graduates who enter wide fields of life every year.

We raise our prayers to almighty God to grant our beloved King the best of health and many many years of fruitful, joyful and peaceful life to enable him to guide us to the shores of real peace and happiness of which we dream. Long Live Our Beloved King and HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Paula Robert Kaplanian,  
Second Preparatory Class,  
Rosary College,  
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

## Election 1991 — voters deliver a tough message for '92

By John King  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush cast a wary eye on Pennsylvania and got election day 1991's dramatic message even before the polls closed. He's planning to stay closer to home, where voters are anxious about a sour economy and restless with their government.

For Democrats, Harris Wofford's upset victory in Pennsylvania's Senate race was an encouraging sign in a race that was a laboratory for the campaign style and themes they hope to carry against Mr. Bush in 1992.

But the party lost ground in some key legislative races and there was an anti-incumbent strain through the election that will raise anxieties across party lines.

Mr. Wofford campaigned with a message that Richard Thorn-

burgh and the Bush administration had abandoned the middle class and was insensitive to the recession's toll.

"It's clearly the kind of campaign we're looking at against George Bush in the 1992 general election and that's why it's a special sign," Democratic National Committee Chairman Ronald H. Brown said in an interview Tuesday night.

Republican pollster Bill McInturf said the economy was the reason for the volatile electorate and the off-year balloting "a needed wake up call for the White House... a good reminder that despite the president's popularity the president of this country is held responsible for the status of the economy."

"I think I was just lucky to be the messenger..." Mr. Wofford said. "People want action from Washington to help working

families. This was time for action. I want to go down as an agent of action and change."

Is Mr. Bush worried? He has to be, given Mr. Wofford's surprising strength in Republican neighborhoods of Pennsylvania. But voters provided cause for alarm for entrenched officeholders in both parties.

Significant turnover in legislative races in New Jersey and Virginia gave evidence of a mood that could help Democrats against Mr. Bush but hurt them at every other level of government. And the day also gave a test to a term-limitation movement that poses a distant threat to majority Democrats in Congress.

Republican spokesman Gary Kooops expressed satisfaction in New Jersey, where voters gave the Republican control of both houses of the legislature. "Pennsylvania is gone, but we're real happy with what we're seeing in

the legislative and local races."

Public anxiety over the economy is allowing Democrats their first real hope for upsetting Mr. Bush a year from now, and as the Pennsylvania polls were closing the president signaled he was taking the threat seriously. Mr. Bush canceled a trip to Asia and Australia later this month to stay in Washington to monitor the economy — and the Democratic Congress.

When the results were in, it was clear Mr. Bush's worries were justified. Mr. Wofford started a 40-point underdog to the better-known and better-financed Thornburgh. Democrats claimed victory even in Mr. Wofford's making a race of it, never mind his convincing victory.

"The clear loser was President Bush," was Senate majority leader George Mitchell's assessment.



## Knights of Malta to end exile enforced by Napoleon

By Joe Scicluna  
Reuters

**VALLETTA** — Nearly two centuries after they were chased out by Napoleon, the Knights of Malta are returning to the Mediterranean is-

land where they became famous.

The knights left Malta as defeated warriors. Now they are back as a charitable order, promising to restore part of the imposing Fort St. Angelo, their former head-

quarters in Valletta.

Once a feared force which defended Christianity in the Middle East with swords and maces, the 900-year-old religious order today devotes itself to charity work.

The knights were masters of Malta for 268 years and won everlasting fame when they repulsed a three-month siege by the military might of Turkey's Suleyman the Magnificent in 1565.

In June 1798 the French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte gave the knights three days to leave the island after Valletta capitulated to him.

This year, the island government signed an agreement with the Order of the Knights of Malta — short for the Sovereign Military Hospitalier Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta — under which they will be allowed to use some of the buildings at Fort St. Angelo.

The knights have undertaken to restore at their own expense the Chapel of St Anne and the house that was occupied by the head of the order, the grandmaster. It is

now known as the Captain's House.

Many grandmasters who died before 1577 were buried in the chapel's crypt. They were later reburied in the crypt of their conventual church, the Co-Cathedral of St John in Valletta.

Apart from the chapel and the Captain's House, the knights will also restore other parts of the fort which have suffered from the ravages of time and heavy bombing in World War II.

Some of the bastion walls, several feet thick and built to withstand Turkish cannon, bear the scars of German bombs.

Interior Minister Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, who signed the agreement on behalf of the Maltese government, stressed that: "Fort St Angelo would remain the property of the government."

After Malta became independent from Britain in 1964 the fort went through a chequered period.

A former Socialist government decided to use it for tourism. A Chinese res-

taurant opened there but did not last long. Nor did an acupuncture centre. The fortress fell into disuse.

The knights operate from headquarters in Rome where the activity pursue the humanitarian role for which the order was originally founded.

The order hopes to set up an emergency relief centre in Malta to store medicines, food and other supplies needed to help countries hit by natural disaster.

The knights have an embassy housed atop one of the bastions overlooking the entrance to Valletta Harbour and they finance the first blood bank set up on the island.

The agreement signed with the knights comes at a time when the government is trying to rehabilitate Valletta, known as "the city built by gentlemen for gentlemen."

Many of the best-known architectural gems in the city were built by the knights — including the Palace of the



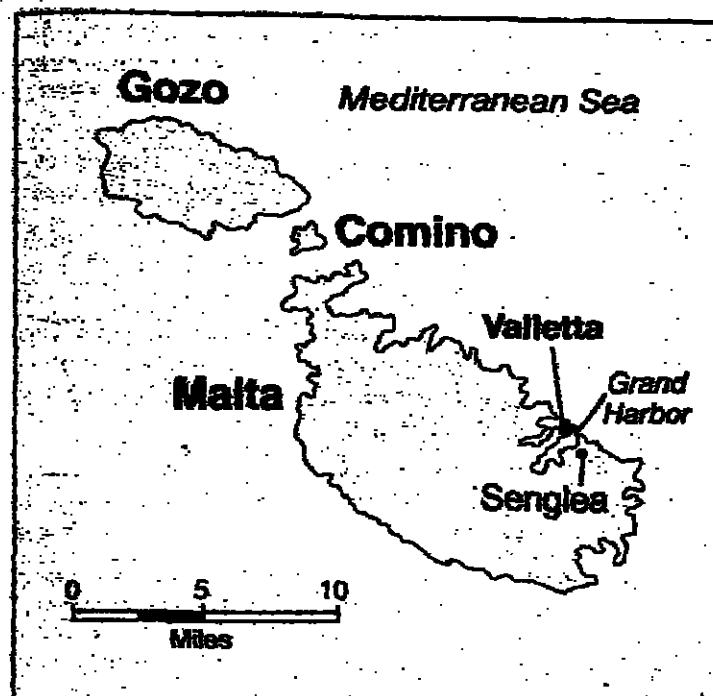
St. John's Cathedral in Valletta.

Grandmasters, now the presidential palace, and St John's Co-Cathedral.

The bastions of Valletta

and its suburb, Floriana, as well as those of the three cities — now the dockyard towns of Vittoriosa, Senglea

and Cospicua — embodied the latest defensive strategies of the time when the knights were fighting.



By Francois Raitberger  
Reuters

## Perfume lovers revive lost fragrances for unique museum

**VERSAILLES, France** — When Napoleon Bonaparte rode into battle friend and foe alike could smell him coming.

The French hero-emperor who was finally vanquished at Waterloo drenched himself in a light cologne before and after battle.

Now his perfume has been recreated at the world's first "Osmothèque" — a collection of the most delicate fragrances invented by man. "Perfumes are the most evanescent of human creations," says Jean Kerleo, who

heads the project which is based near the Palace of Versailles outside Paris.

All that remains of fragrances after the production line stops, the last decanter is emptied and the last drop has evaporated from the skin are vague memories that fade away and disappear for ever.

Mr. Kerleo is making sure they will survive.

He says he has recreated the light cologne that Napoleon is known to have used by the litre before and after the fight.

It disappeared when he

died, but Mr. Kerleo reconstructed the formula from an order for ingredients which a servant had sent from the Atlantic island of Saint Helena to which Napoleon was exiled by his British conquerors 170 years ago.

Mr. Kerleo's kingdom of the nose is a small refrigerated darkroom in which hundreds of fragrances are sheltered from light and heat.

Since the French Perfumers Society launched the idea of the osmothèque 14 years ago, Mr. Kerleo's team has collected 532 perfumes that

are no longer on sale.

Through patient investigation, they have recovered samples and pieced formulas together.

Some 85 perfumes which had disappeared has to be reconstructed from scratch, a colossal task because the number of ingredients has grown to several thousand from about 50 in the 17th century.

Modern fragrances make up the bulk of the collection.

"For the moment, we want to rescue what is most urgent.

Then we'll go back through the centuries," Mr. Kerleo said.

He felt rewarded when a 70-year-old woman called, longing to again smell "Arlequinade," the lost perfume of her late mother which had haunted her childhood.

"She left saying: 'I've found my mother again,'" he said.

Most fragrances stored at the osmothèque were created since the late 19th century, when the French perfume industry rose to a virtual world monopoly that lasted until

World War II.

They are kept in the dark, at a constant temperature of 12 degrees Celsius (54 degrees Fahrenheit), protected from evaporation by a layer of argon gas which preserves them indefinitely.

Visitors to the Osmothèque must apply to be admitted to the weekly tour. Most are perfume industry experts or students at the nearby International Perfume and Cosmetics Institute (ISIPCA).

Sniffing strips of blotting

paper dipped into decanters, they try to discern ingredients and find ideas for new fragrances.

Perfume makers describe their creations as laying "a light invisible fabric between skin and silk."

Mr. Kerleo compares the job to that of an artist mixing colours on a palette or an architect conceiving a building.

When most perfumes were intended for women, the job was the privilege of men — as high-class French cuisine was

once the preserve of male chefs. But women are taking over now that half the cosmetics production is intended for men, Mr. Kerleo said.

About 80 of ISIPCA's 100 students are women.

It is fitting for the first Osmothèque to be located in France, where more than half the world's best-known perfumes are still made.

But it is ironic that it should be near the Versailles Palace which, according to Mr. Kerleo, would have been as much foul-smelling as grand when the sun king, Louis XIV, ruled there, due to poor personal hygiene and sanitation.

## True grit on the race car circuit

By Clare Pedrick

**SIENA, Italy** — Italian racing driver Alessandro Nannini had a reputation as a Formula One daredevil driver, but ironically it was a freak helicopter crash that brought a halt to his short but brilliant career.

The accident happened on the grounds of his father's country home in Tuscany. Nannini's right forearm was severed below the elbow in the crash. Doctors miraculously saved the arm and sewed it back on, using microsurgery techniques. That was almost a year ago. Now, 32-year-old Nannini is hoping for a second miracle. He is planning a comeback to the race track.

This time, the likeable Italian driver, who drove for Benetton-Ford with Brazilian team-mate Nelson Piquet, says he will be taking things more slowly. He knows that stepping back into a Formula One cockpit may be an impossible dream, and for the time being at least, he is planning to make do with second-best. In October, he starts trials as a driver on the saloon car circuit, which uses normal cars with souped up engines.

It won't be the same, of course, but Nannini is hoping it might mark a first step back on the career he loved. "I personally would love to go back to Formula One racing, but I know it won't be easy," said the driver, talking at his apartment in the heart of Siena. "Formula One is a very special kind of sport. I'm hoping hard, but I may need another miracle, besides the one I've already had." Nannini can clearly remember that fall day last year, when the helicopter in which he was a passenger keeled over as it came to land on the lawn of his parents' villa. "Afterwards, I was lying there for

10 minutes waiting for the ambulance to arrive, and I saw it wasn't there," said Nannini, pointing at his right hand. "Then, when I woke up in hospital, I found I had it back again. I was overjoyed."

Months of painful surgery followed. Nannini had 11 operations to mend the severed nerves and muscles. "Every 15 days or so, I'd go back to the hospital and hire myself a bed for a few days," he said, with a broad smile. "At the beginning, I was so happy and delighted to have my arm back that for the first three or four months, going into the operating theatre was a breeze. But after the sixth operation, I began to say 'come on doctor, give me a break!'" Nannini smiles and jokes constantly as he recounts the experiences of the past year. On the race circuit, besides his daredevil reputation, he was also known as one of the most popular drivers. "I've always been a cheerful type," he said. "All things considered, I've taken it (the accident) pretty well. In the first three months or so, there was an hour each day when I was irritable and snapped at my wife or my mother. Then, after a couple of months, it became an hour every three days. Now, I'm only irritable occasionally, when something gets me down. I think about it, of course, but I keep it to myself."

Even so, the accident has been a bitter blow. It came at a time when Nannini's efforts were starting to bear fruit. He was beginning to gain recognition as one of the keenest young talents on the Formula One circuit. He had scored in impressive 65 points in the colours of Benetton-Ford since signing for the team in 1988 and was being spoken of as a future world champion. He had notched



Alessandro Nannini

up a respectable record of placings — third in Britain and in Spain, second in Germany and then, the magic moment, first place at Suzuka in Japan in 1989.

Alongside veteran champion Piquet, Nannini was also helping Benetton-Ford carve a name for itself as a racing team to be reckoned with. The Italian knitwear firm is a relative newcomer to Formula One racing, launching its team in 1986, but it quickly made strides to take its current ranking of fourth place behind the more established teams of Ferrari, Williams and McLaren.

Alessandro Benetton, who handles the textile firm's racing activities, has publicly said there will be a place for Nannini, should the Italian driver be able to cope with the strenuous demands of Formula One once again. Nannini is hoping, but trying not to hope too hard. "My desire to go back is enormous, but I'm also psychologically prepared if it doesn't work out," he said. "It is what I've always wanted to do, and it's what I do well — quite well, anyway!"

Doctors say the driver will recover 70 per cent of the use of his right arm and hand, but it will take time. "At the

beginning, I was too optimistic," he said. "I'd hoped to be ready to go back by this September, but the doctors always told me: 'Alessandro, you'll never do it. It will need one and a half years at least to get back the maximum use.' I have to wait for the nerves to knit back, and they grow at 1 millimetre a day."

As he talks, Nannini plays constantly with a small square of sponge, which he clenches between the fingers of the damaged hand. It helps him keep the muscles moving. "It also means I don't have to see how dumb the hand looks," he says, laughing. "It does look pretty stupid, but it's slowly getting better." Rolling up his shirt sleeve, Nannini reveals a forearm that is badly misshapen, and criss-crossed with scars, but the muscles are clearly visible and respond vigorously as he flexes his hand. He has trouble with his grip, which could cause problems when it comes to controlling a steering wheel at 300 kph. Changing gears at high speed will also be difficult. But already he can feel the sensations of hot and cold on his skin and he can do many things that would have been unthinkable a few months ago. "I can't take a glass of water in my hand, and I have trouble lacing a pair of shoes — I now wear slip-ons," he said, smiling. "But I can do most things, and I can drive."

He can, and does, drive himself to his appointments, and in the past few weeks he has been back behind the wheel on an improvised race track on the grounds of his father's estate, in a high-performance saloon, training for his October debut.

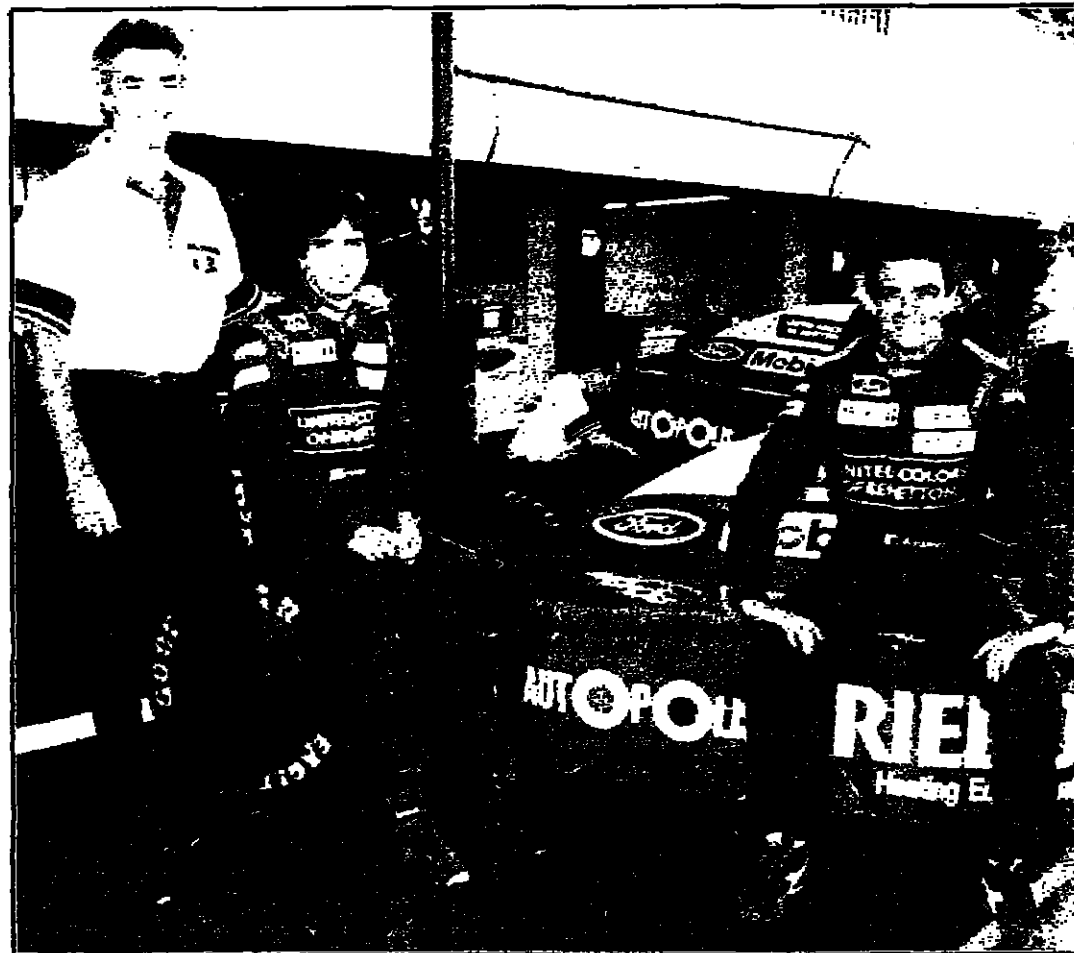
Nannini comes from an extraordinary family. His father, Danilo, is a pastry chef who made a fortune with a chain of bars and pastry shops that bear the family

name. His older sister Gianna, 37, is one of Italy's best-known rock stars. Alessandro, the youngest of three children, had been groomed for the family business, but he disappointed his father by choosing a career in racing instead, a source of bitter contention in the Nannini household. "When you are growing up, and every meal-time conversation with your parents is about the pastry business and coffee machines, you end up becoming involved in it," he said. "I always thought I would go into the family business. But cars were much more my line."

Nannini began as a rally driver. Then, gradually, he made his way up the ladder until he had arrived at his goal — the world of Formula One. "My parents never agreed to the idea. Only in the past two or three years did my father come to watch me," said Nannini. "It annoyed me a bit, because before, during the early years, I'd had to do everything by myself."

Since his accident, Nannini has made another attempt at being a businessman. He has become involved in the coffee side of his father's empire and has property interests. But he readily admits that life behind an office desk is not for him. "The world of Formula One is very fast. I'm used to seeing things done in five days. In this business, everything takes five weeks," he said.

For Nannini, the smell of the oil, the roar of the engines and above all, the thrill of speed, are things he finds hard to do without. Formula One racing, he says, is the maximum in the way of sensation and excitement. "It's a pure expression of speed, of meanness and of sheer grit," he said. "It's difficult to put it into words. It's like trying to describe



Before his injury, Alessandro Nannini (right) poses with team-mate Nelson Piquet.

what you feel like when you're making love. It's a strange sensation, the track, the curve, the speed, the feeling of pulling away from the rest of the field and of being completely at one with the car. It's something I've always loved ever since I was young. I've always loved engines in general, and cars in particular."

In the past few months, Nannini has taken the vacations he never had time to take when he was racing. With his wife Paola, he has been to the U.S., sailed around the Mediterranean, and spent time in Monte Carlo, where he also has a home. But the race track has never been far from his mind. He went to the two Italian championships this year — at Monza and Imola — to see his close friend and fellow

Italian Riccardo Patrese, who races for Williams-Renault, and to watch his former team-mate Nelson Piquet, and his own replacement, Brazilian Roberto Moreno, recently substituted by the young German driver Michael Schumacher. "But I didn't enjoy it that much," he said.

It was hard, admits Nannini, being on the outside of the familiar world that he himself describes as a "circus." "In a way we're a band of gypsies, but in the positive sense. Once a week, you take a plane, and there is a whole troupe of people, the mechanics, the engineers, the journalists, the drivers, the drivers' wives. Everyone has his job to do and you're always traveling. I loved it. It wasn't the kind of life you could complain about."

Nannini predicts the McLaren's long streak of success may soon come to an end. McLaren's star driver, Ayrton Senna, has clinched his third world title, but Nannini believes the British-French team Williams-Renault will take over as leader of the field for next year's championships. "It would certainly be more interesting if someone else won it for a change," he said. "I think Williams might take the title next year, though it's hard to say for sure. Formula One is a very fluid sport. You can never say, 'this team is no good.' In the space of a few weeks, everything can change. Something can always happen that makes you gain that extra second, and surge out in front of the others —" World News Link.



## Marital bliss

By Maha Addasi

If wedding preparations are any indication of future marital "bliss" then Cupid is a criminal and should be brought to trial immediately for making people want to get married. Because if there is anything more of a test for love between a couple, it is preparing for the "Big Day," while combating all the comments, "suggestions," and "advice for their own good," being hurled upon the two from all directions.

"Marriage you say. That's the golden cage. Only one such cage exists in every million marriages, the rest are rusting metal," one lady said.

"Remember," said another person "All that glitters is not gold. Besides, a cage is a cage, and the word says it all."

"It's like a cave," one man said. "Those inside want to go out, and those outside want to go in."

But personally, I draw the line at the "melon theory." "Marriage is like a watermelon. You can't speculate whether it will be good or bad."

To tell you the truth, the comments are the fun part. It is the decision-making that leads to suicides. Take this for example:

"I want the main colour for my wedding to be pink," says the happy daughter.

"Pink is too common," says the mother.

"O.K., peach then," compromises the daughter.

"Peach is too unavailable," says the mother.

"What about yellow?" suggests the daughter, curbing her temper.

"Yellow is the colour for jealousy," says the mother.

"What's left? Let me run through all the colours and you can say 'stop' when the colour appeals to you," says the daughter sarcastically.

"O.K.," agrees the mother.

"Whose wedding is it anyway?" shouts the daughter.

"Forget it. I don't want flowers on my wedding. I want trees. I'm having the wedding in the jungle and that's final. The flowers there are on the house!"

"Ungrateful child. I'm doing this for your own good," returns the mother.

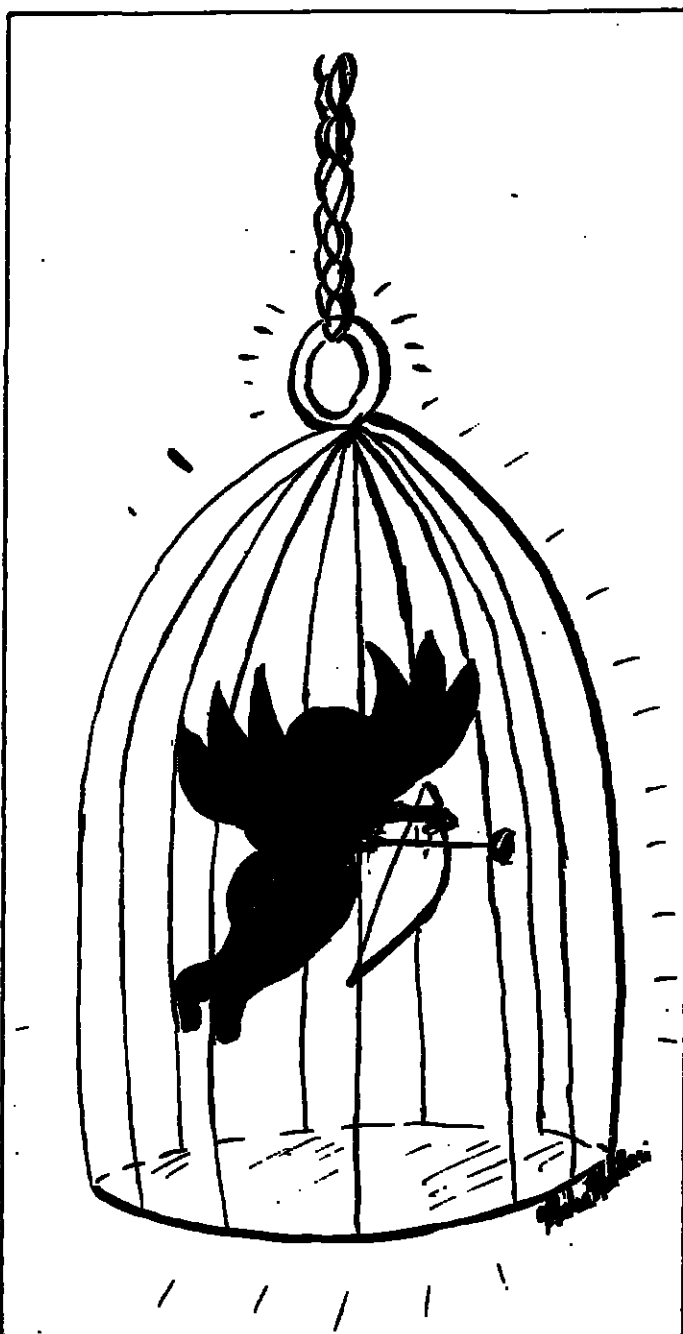
And so go all the decisions. Choosing the colour of the groom's suit becomes a crisis. The length of the sleeves of the bride's wedding gown becomes a catastrophe. And picking the flower girls leads to bloodshed.

What you get in the end is supposed to be worth it: A cage!

Not just any cage, mind you. No. It's one which you share with a person you must learn to compromise with, which in turn means that everything you plan never goes through. Soon enough kids share that same cage, then grow up to become teenagers, and you all live happily ever after (in that cage).

What a deal? What pure delight? This gives the word "bliss" a whole new meaning.

Let me tell you a secret, though. The cage is not formed



around a couple after they marry. The decision to marry is to have the "maturity" and "enlightened mode of thinking" to dare to step into a cage already there. So they really know what they are getting into from the start.

I know many married couples who would like to catch cupid and put him in a cage — a golden cage.

## David and Goliath

By E. Yaghi

Young David sat on top of the rubble of his demolished home in the ancient land of former Canaan where mighty prophets and their grandfathers once walked and preached the word of Almighty God. Although it was very late October, there was still no sign of rain to wash away the dust that formed a choking cloud over the ruins of David's house.

Directly near the rubble grew an old withered olive tree that seldom bore any fruit. When his family first became refugees, he had heard that his grandfather lovingly patted a mound of dirt around the weak sapling that later became David's favourite resting place and a source of shade from the glare of the hot summer sun. Outloud David groaned: "What am I to do now? Where can I go? What hope is there for me, an orphan and a refugee? My father's in prison and my mother's dead. I have no money and my food in old stale bread. Sometimes neighbouring women remember me and bring me food when they aren't mourning their own tragedies, but whenever a new disaster strikes, they forget me and leave me hungry and now I have no home to shelter me from cold nights or freezing winters!"

He felt he had shed all his tears and couldn't cry anymore. A sharp pain of remorse stabbed his heart. He bent his curly tousled head down on his arms which were folded over his knees and tried to shut out his toys of sticks, slingshots and intifada borne stones. He made an effort to forget the rumble like thunder that brought down his home into a cloud of dust and rubbish.

Although it was dark inside his arms, the Indian sun warmed his back. In spite of the smell of dirt in his nostrils, he could almost taste the Mediterranean Sea which was fresh and exhilarating. Not far away, within walking distance was the site where a blinded outraged Samson brought down the walls of the temple built to worship the pagan God Dagon upon those who had sinned and persecuted him. "I wish I were as strong as Samson and could wrestle huge pillars to collapse on our enslavers too," David said to no one. "Or with my stone slay the giant Goliath."

While he was pondering his fate, he heard a coo of a pigeon and drew his head away from the dark pit he had let it sink into. On his olive tree sat a beautiful white dove with black tips on its wings, tail and throat. Startled that something so exquisite decorated his tree so near the ugliness of the twisted iron that jutted above broken cement blocks, David said, "How beautiful and grand you are! Where did you come from and why are you here?"

To his surprise the regal dove answered, "I came to bring you tidings of peace. It has been whispered by the Wind of Change that one day soon you will be free."

"Impossible!" David yelled, forgetting himself. "There will never be peace. Look at my home! There is nothing left of it, yet you speak peace. Only this morning Israeli soldiers came and levelled it. Witness the marks on my body of the many beatings I've suffered. I still feel the pain

of scars that won't heal! How can you speak of peace to me? At this very moment, my father is thrown in Ansar II. It is not a prison, but a slaughterhouse where Palestinians are taken to die!"

The pigeon fluttered his wings as though he were going to fly away then said, "Patience child. Your agony is great and your people have suffered much at the hands of ungrateful Zionists who confiscated your lands, cut and destroyed your orchards and made a desert out of the fertile land that your father and his ancestors tilled with patience and love. These invaders weren't farmers who loved your land, but thieves who wrested your country away from its legal owners." He cooed a bit as though to clear his throat and continued, "But haven't you heard, David, now there is a chance of peace where you and the children of tomorrow will be free? You might possibly have your own state where no soldier will harass you. Perhaps that hideous evil little gnome who lives under the bridge and doesn't disown a single Stern Gang terrorist step or act will make concessions after all!"

"If only words could make wishes come true! O beautiful dove, is it possible that we might have peace at last? Can I run, play and shout as boys of my age should and throw away my slingshot and five smooth intifada stones? Has the giant Goliath been brought to his knees by children such as me?"

"Yes my boy and if there is peace then your childhood, what is left of it, will be returned to you again!"

David jumped up and brushed the dirt from his pants. There were stars shining in his eyes and he recited part of a poem he and his friends often chanted:

"Give us a nation, our own Palestinian state,  
For justice and freedom, I gladly will wait!  
I will trade all my stones and dry all my tears,  
Try to forget my terror filled years,  
But give me a chance, I'll sing and I'll dance  
In this country of mine where I'll carry a branch  
Cut from black olives, crowned with a white dove  
And I'll rebuild my home in the land I love!"

"Peace," cried the pigeon as it spread its black tipped wings, took off into the sky and headed towards the sea. "Good-bye brave David!"

"Good-bye beautiful pigeon!" he answered. Then he ran to his favourite olive tree, broke off a branch and scurried into the street not far from the rubble of his home shouting, "Peace! Peace!"

Other boys, his street friends, joined him. About 100 metres away David noticed a parked Israeli jeep. He ran up to the soldiers who sat at alert on readied guns and handed them an olive branch, yelling, "Peace!"

He saw confused smiles occupy their faces as he darted off, forgetting for a moment his rubble home. He would wait for that magic word which would one day free all prisoners including his father and let him be a boy again in his land of milk and honey.

Thursday, Nov. 14

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

1647 — England's King Charles I is recaptured and imprisoned.

1775 — American troops under Benedict Arnold invade Quebec Province in Canada.

1890 — Anglo-Portuguese agreement on Zambesi and Congo grants Britain control of Lower Zambesi and colonising rights up to the Congo.

1935 — U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaims Philippine islands a Commonwealth and pledges independence by 1946.

1940 — German bombers attack English city of Coventry in World War II.

1947 — United Nations recognises Korea's claim to independence.

1957 — Britain declares Bahrain independent Arab state under British protection.

1960 — Two passenger trains collide in Czechoslovakia, killing 110 people and injuring 105.

1970 — Cyclone and giant waves devastate southern coast of East Pakistan and islands in Bay of Bengal, with death toll estimated at 300,000.

1975 — Morocco and Mauritania reach agreement on future of Spanish Sahara.

1977 — Egypt's President Anwar Sadat says he will address Israel's parliament on Middle East peace if invitation is sent by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

1987 — Italy's Premier Giovanni Goria resigns after tiny Liberal Party backs out of his coalition.

1988 — Palestine National Council endorses new political strategy that implicitly recognises the state of Israel and renounces terrorism.

1989 — Black nationalist movement SWAPO wins a solid majority in Namibia's first national elections.

1990 — More than 300 people are arrested and about 70 injured as police clear anarchist squatters from Berlin neighbourhood.

Friday, Nov. 15

1492 — Christopher Col-

umbus notes in journal use of tobacco among Indians—the first recorded reference to tobacco.

1577 — Sir Francis Drake of England leaves on voyage around world.

1889 — Brazil's King Pedro II abdicates, and Brazil is proclaimed a republic.

1920 — League of Nations Assembly holds first meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

1928 — Fascist Grand Council becomes part of Italian constitution.

1935 — Manuel Quezon becomes first president of Philippine Commonwealth.

1956 — United Nations Emergency Force arrives in Egypt.

1971 — Border clashes continue between India and Pakistan.

1976 — Syrian army takes full control of Beirut, in effect ending 18-month civil war in Lebanon.

1977 — Israel sends formal invitation to Egypt's President Anwar Sadat to visit Israel and address Israeli parliament.

1988 — Dalai Lama says he will settle for less than full independence for Tibet in order to prevent assimilation by China.

1989 — Palestinians in the occupied West Bank celebrate one-year anniversary of the PLO's declaration of independence for the Palestinian people.

1990 — Leningrad decides to ration food due to extreme shortages; First major U.S.-Soviet military exercise, "Imminent Thunder" begins.

Saturday, Nov. 16

1933 — Brazil's President Getulio Vargas assumes dictatorial powers; United States and Soviet Union establish diplomatic relations.

1941 — Nazi Germany launches second assault on Moscow in World War II — again doomed to failure.

1952 — Field Marshal Papagos forms ministry in Greece.

1967 — Twenty-three Turkish Cypriots die in fighting on Island of Cyprus.

1968 — Soviet Union announces it has launched world's largest space ship to date, the Proton Four.

1970 — Pakistani officials say death toll in typhoon and tidal wave that struck bay of Bengal may reach one-half million.

1972 — United States and several European allies invite Soviet Union to participate in exploratory talks on reducing military forces in Central Europe.

1977 — Shah of Iran, leaving Tehran for meeting with U.S. President Jimmy Carter, says he will work actively against increase in oil prices.

1987 — Officials close University of Nairobi after riot troops storm campus but fail to subdue students protesting arrest of student leaders.

1988 — Estonian parliament declares the tiny Baltic republic "sovereign" with right to veto Soviet laws.

1989 — Heart of Israeli soldier ambushed and killed by Arabs in occupied territories is transplanted into chest of dying Palestinian man; President F.W. de Klerk promises repeal of law allowing segregation of public facilities in South Africa.

1990 — China sets off its largest nuclear explosion in atmosphere.

1997 — Egypt's President Anwar Sadat formally accepts invitation to visit Israel, ignoring uproar among Arab nations and his own government.

1985 — Colombian officials estimate more than 21,500 people dead or missing from volcanic eruption and mudslides in Andean valley four days earlier.

1987 — Iran says Iraqi warplanes attacked unfinished nuclear power plant.

1988 — Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party scores solid victory in parliamentary elections.

1989 — Parliament dismisses Todor Zhivkov as head of state in Bulgaria.

1990 — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev holds inconclusive talks with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

1990 — Suez Canal opens in Egypt, linking Mediterranean and Red Seas.

1993 — Dahomey becomes French protectorate.

1913 — First vessels pass through Panama Canal.

1937 — Lord Halifax visits Adolf Hitler attempting peaceful settlement of Sudeten issue, marking start of Britain's policy of appeasement.

1954 — Jamal Abdul Nasser becomes head of state in Egypt.

1963 — Army in Iraq revolts and sets up new revolutionary government headed by Abdul Salam Arif.

1964 — Britain says it will ban arms exports to South Africa.

1971 — Vemij Thanon Kitikachorn seizes power in Thailand, abolishes parliament, dismisses cabinet and suspends nation's constitution.

1972 — Former Argentine dictator Juan D. Peron returns to his homeland after 17 years of exile.

1976 — China sets off its largest nuclear explosion in atmosphere.

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1941 — British troops launch attack in West African desert in World War II.

1970 — China names ambassador to Soviet Union, restoring top-level diplomatic relations for first time in four years; West Germany and Poland agree to restore relations, ending 31 years of enmity.

1976 — Twenty-seven people are executed in Ethiopia for alleged plots against two-year-old military government.

1977 — Egyptian embassy in Athens is stormed by Palestinian students, and embassy in Beirut comes under rocket attack as protests spread over Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's plan to visit Israel.

1978 — Jonestown massacre occurs in Guyana, with U.S. congressman and four other people killed as they try to leave People's Temple camp — and almost 900 cult members commit suicide.

1987 — Lawyers group reports systematic violations of Geneva Convention bans on genocide, torture and use of chemical weapons by Soviet and allied troops in Afghanistan.

Tuesday, Nov. 19

1899 — Khalifa of Sudan is killed by Sir Reginald Wingate on the White Nile.

1924 — Sir Lee Stack, British governor of Sudan, is slain in Cairo.

1942 — Soviet troops counterattack at Stalingrad and surround German troops in World War II.

1961 — About 4,900 Algerian rebels in French prisons end 19-day hunger strike on assurance they will be treated as political prisoners.

1970 — Vatican pledges support to United Nations plan for narrowing economic gap between rich and poor nations.

1977 — Egypt's President Anwar Sadat arrives in Israel on his first peace mission to that nation and receives warm welcome from principal political leaders.

1987 — Thousands shout for revenge during funeral procession for 10 civilians killed in Iranian air raid on hospital in Northern Kurdish city of Dohuk, Iraq.

1941 — British troops launch attack in West African desert in World War II.

By the Associated Press

## JTV CHANNEL 2

### WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Nov. 14

8:30 The Simpsons

The one-thousand-dollar hair treatment gives Mr. Simpson a totally different look, but not for long.

9:10 The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes

The disappearance of Lady Frances

Dr. Watson's holiday is ruined by the enigmatic disappearance of Lady Frances. Holmes rushes to the lake district just as the lady disappears.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

The Appaloosa  
Starring: Marlon Brando and John Saxon

The movie is about a cowboy who dreams of establishing a breeding ranch with hardly any money and a stud named Appaloosa. But a gangster disturbs his dream.

Friday, Nov. 15

8:30 Coach

The Marion Kind

The story of two old friends who meet after so many years, and compete for a lady friend.

9:10 Continuation of Shakespeare's King Lear

10:00 News in English

10:20 W.I.O.U

Sizzling Sal

Sizzling Sal is the electric chair, and channel 12's news department, is carrying a story on the first execution in the state since 1976.

Saturday, Nov. 16

8:30 Totally Hidden Video

9:00 Encounter

10:00 News in English

10:20 News in English

10:20 Gabriel's Fire

The Neighbourhood

Gabriel finds fulfillment in helping out teenagers in his neighbourhood who badly need help.

Tuesday, Nov. 19

8:30 Who's The Boss

When Billy has trouble adjusting to his new pre-school veteran parents, Tony and Angela get some remedial lessons in child-rearing when they take a course in positive parenting.

9:10 Our House

10:00 News in English

10:20 Columbo

Wednesday, Nov. 20

8:30 Kate And Allie

Kate experiences being a hired "wife" for one party only.

9:10 Cosmos

10:00 News in English

10:20 Equal Justice

Good Bye Judge Green  
The prosecutors at the D. A.'s office work on the case of the rape of a black woman and the murder of a Latino old lady, and they file a complaint against Judge Green.

10:00 News in English  
10:20 This Man, This Woman



# Jean-Jacques Annaud — a prodigious film director

By Pierre Albert Lambert

After *La Guerre De Feu*, *The Name Of The Rose* and *L'Ours* (The Bear), three films characterised by deep originality and ones which shot him to the forefront of world cinema, Jean-Jacques Annaud is now bringing Marguerite Duras' successful novel, *L'Amant* (The Lover), to the screen.

PARIS — Jean-Jacques Annaud, who holds a place apart in the world of cinema, is a man of challenges. First of all, challenges to himself: Making films considered as "unfilmable," is what keeps him on the move.

He had barely finished *L'Ours* (The Bear) when he disconcerted his fans with his intention to turn Marguerite Duras' novel into a film. The love story between a very young European girl and a Chinese businessman in pre-war Indo-China is certainly a good subject, but here, we are a long way away from the highly spectacular films that the maker of *La Guerre De Feu* had accustomed us to.

"I found some fascinating things in this book," Annaud declared, "Asia, the colonial world, the places described by the novelist and which I went to reconnoitre." He wrote the dialogues together with the novelist, several of whose works have already been brought to the screen (*Barrage Sur Le Pacifique*; *Moderato Cantabile*, etc.) and who collaborated with Alain Resnais when he was making *Hiroshima Mon Amour*, in 1959.

With his clear eyes and Roman-like curly hair, J.J. Annaud is the son of a Paris railway-worker. As a child, he was keen on cinema and collected old projectors,

cameras and viewers.

When he was 18, he signed on at the Institut des Hautes Etudes Cinématographiques (IDHEC) cinema school while continuing his studies in literature. In 1965, when he was 22, he did his military service in Cameroon. He was won over by Africa and decided to make his first film there.

On his return to France, advertising had just been allowed on television and the young film-maker found a well-paid job in this area. In 10 years, he made 400 films extolling the qualities of raspberry yoghurt and the virtues of fluoride toothpaste. He was crowned as the king of advertising films, but he realised that he was wasting his promising talents. However, the money he was making hand over fist would ensure his independence as a filmmaker.

In 1976, he returned to Cameroon to make his first full-feature film: *La Victoire En Chantant*, a satire on col-

onialism and warped patriotism. The work was shunned by the French public. However, it won an Oscar for the best foreign film in the United States.

In *Coup De Tête* (1979), Annaud tells the story of a football player held aloof by his team. It gave him the opportunity to depict a certain chilly and petty provincial mentality. Thanks to the success of this film, he obtained the agreement of Fox to carry out a project he was very keen on: making a film of Rosny the elder's novel, *La Guerre De Feu*.

It was a real challenge. The director explains that he wanted to make prehistoric man live again for us, at the very moment when he discovered fire. And he wanted to achieve it without using speech. The actors would make themselves understood using gestures, cries and grunts. When people in the cinema world heard him speak about his project, they wondered if Annaud was

slightly mad.

This film, which is unlike any other, was a worldwide success. It was a milestone in the history of cinema. Critics acclaimed the director as a "prodigy of the camera." Annaud received fabulous proposals to move to Hollywood. But he prefers the life he leads on his farm in the Loiret, in the heart of the "garden of France," to Californian high life.

It was there, by the fire-side, that, one day in 1984, he discovered Umberto Eco's bestseller: *The Name Of The Rose*, a medieval thriller whose sophisticated plot takes place in an abbey in the 15th century. Annaud turned it into a highly colourful film, with skilfully distilled suspense. It was a great success, especially in Europe.

A year later, on reading James Curwood's *Grizzly*, he was equally impressed. "A perfectly simple story," he wrote to the future producer of *L'Ours* (The Bear). "Two hunters in a forest, an orphan

bear-cub, two big bachelor bears, the point of view of the animals."

The perfectly simple story became a colossal undertaking with an astronomical budget. Ten times as much film footage as for an average film, with bears, weighing 850 kilos, brought by special plane from the United States to the heart of the Alps where the film was being shot.

"*L'Ours*" is a fascinating picture-book. Making the film had been a continuous technical feat and it was to fascinate young and old alike all over the world. It is still winning its creator praise and trophies.

What will J.J. Annaud's next film, after *L'Amant*, be? Once again, the realisation of one of his dreams: A film about Eskimos which he will make in Greenland. "With a concern to show the Western spectator a different civilisation from ours," he explains — *L'Actualite en France*.



Jean-Jacques Annaud

## Japanese are mad for Mozart

By Elaine Kurlenbach  
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart never visited Japan and probably never heard the soulful tunes plucked on the banjo-like shamisen. No matter. This year the nation's just mad for Mozart.

Although hundreds of concerts are commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Austrian composer's death on Dec. 5, 1791, the Japanese crave more than mere music.

In true mercantilist fashion, companies have outdone themselves turning out namesake chocolates, sake, and even lingerie for rager fans.

The most intimate tribute to Mozart may be Triumph International Japan's black brassiere studded with blinking lights. When fastened, it plays "twinkle, twinkle little star" — a tune the manufacturers believe was authored by Mozart.

The computer chip-laden bra and matching panties are worth about 145, although the promotional gimmick is not for sale because it can't be washed, company spokeswoman Tadako Musha said.

Dairy managers and at least two brewers of rice wine claim that playing Mozart's music helps cows produce good milk and bacteria produce good sake, some of which is named after the composer.

The Sawada Brewery in western Japan pipes Mozart programmes through its plant every day. "There's all kinds of classical music, but Mozart seems to make the best sake, maybe because it's so gentle," says Brewery worker Hatsue Kodama.

It's a claim even academics here ponder seriously.

"If you were going to make a sake named after Bach, Mozart, Miles Davis or Saburo Kitajima (a singer), I suppose Mozart would be the best choice," Hideo Takahashi, a Meiji University professor and an expert on the composer said in an interview in the highbrow monthly magazine Chuo Koron.

"I guess you'd have to drink it to find out," said writer Takeo Ashizu. All of this folderol dismisses other Mozart specialists such as Bin Ebisawa, president of Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo.

"Mozart isn't for eating, drinking or wearing, it's for listening," Mr. Ebisawa said. "A memorial year should be observed quietly, with some consideration for the sadness of Mozart's passing."

Mr. Ebisawa and other hard-core Japanese Mozartians want nothing to do with Mozart pens, chocolates and lingerie. They're solely interested in the man and his music.

Some of that dedication seems to be paying off.

Japanese composer Shigeaki Saigusa has been honoured with a request by the International Stiftung Mozarteum, an organisation devoted to Mozart research, to write an ending for the Requiem Mass, left unfinished at Mozart's death. The arrangement will be performed on Dec. 5 in a memorial concert in Salzburg, Austria.

Among the others caught up in the bicentennial commemorations are the Dai-ichi Mutual Life Insurance Co., which has donated about \$3.7 million to the International Stiftung Mozarteum to help convert into a museum a Salzburg building that once was part of Mozart's home.

Shogakukan, a major publisher, has released a 15-volume Complete Mozart Edition series in cooperation with Philips of Holland that costs about 2,800. Each volume contains about 12 compact discs — 728 works in all — as well as commentaries on Mozart's works.

Although some of the Mozart hoopla undoubtedly stems from the Japanese love of trendiness, even the staid Mr. Ebisawa acknowledges the nation has a deep affection for the composer.

The infatuation here with Western classical music began in the late 19th century, when Japan broke out of its isolationist shell and rushed to emulate colonial powers by importing their science, education and dress.

Even during World War II, Western symphonies and operas continued to gain popularity. But Mozart wasn't singled out for special attention until after the war, when Hideo Kobayashi, a popular literary critic, penned a still famous essay interpreting the composer for Japanese audiences.

Kobayashi wrote in 1946: "Mozart's music ... is like something newborn, always so absolutely fresh, regardless of my thoughts or mood, that I'm astonished."

Said Mr. Ebisawa: "in the dark days after the war, when most people didn't have any records or anything, Kobayashi sat and listened very carefully, from a Japanese perspective. Ever since then, Mozart has grown in popularity. The essay was very influential."

With the 1985 movie *Amadeus*, a smash hit here, the composer's popularity among younger Japanese swelled.

In an average year, performances of Beethoven usually outnumber those of Mozart in Japan, but as cartoonist Shigeisa Sunagawa explained to the popular magazine Bungei Shunju, Beethoven is passed.

By Andrew Gumbell  
Reuters

PARIS — It has been billed the most extravagant French film ever made. But after three years of delays, injuries, strikes, staff walkouts and financial crises, perhaps the most remarkable thing is that it got made at all.

*Les Amants Du Pont Neuf* (The Lovers Of The Pont Neuf), a melodramatic tale of tramps slumming it on Paris's most famous bridge, has finally reached the screen — with critics bitterly divided over whether the whole agonising project was worth it.

Leos Carax's film is the talk of Paris, and much of the talk has been about money — 160 million francs (\$28 million) at the latest estimate, or five times the original budget.

Quite how Carax managed to burn so many holes in the pockets of three exasperated

producers and thousands of financial backers is a story that could make any accountant weep.

Carax has to forfeit a non-renewable three-week permit to film on the real Pont Neuf after his leading man, Denis Lavant, was immobilised with a ripped tendon in his hand.

Instead he had the bridge — along with large chunks of central Paris — reconstructed on a windswept plain in the Camargue Marshes of southern France.

Hundreds of builders laboured for months to construct the 10 hectares (25 acres) set, and continued to work on it for the entire marathon shooting period as gale force winds knocked down building facades and the fake River Seine burst its banks.

The project, begun in 1988, ground to a halt several times as producers ran out of

money, key crew members left to honour other commitments and disputes erupted over pay and conditions.

But the expense did not stop there. For a scene taking place on the 1989 bicentenary of the French Revolution, Carax re-enacted the Baroque fireworks display which the city of Paris organised for the occasion.

Disarmingly terse directions in the screenplay turned into financial nightmares. The two lines — "Michelle goes water-skiing on the Seine. Alex drives the outboard motor" cost five million francs (\$800,000) to realise.

Such dizzy extravagance has earned Carax comparisons with D.W. Griffith, the Hollywood pioneer who rebuilt ancient Baghdad and imported elephants for his 1917 epic *Intolerance*.

Less flatteringly, critics fear *Les Amants* could be-

come the French version of *Heaven's Gate* — Oscar-winner Michael Cimino's disastrous Western whose runaway budget and box office failure nearly ruined his studio, United Artists, in 1981.

The lovers of the title are Alex, a depressive fire-eater (Lavant), and Michelle, an artist who has run away from her bourgeois background and is gradually going blind from a rare eye disease (Juliette Binoche).

The two sleep rough on a Pont Neuf closed to traffic for repairs, and soon embark on an intense and painful affair narrated with stunning visual fantasy.

Tramps who discuss sushi (Japanese raw fish) or display perfect water-skiing technique with an improvised wooden board and a stolen police patrol boat might sound implausible. But Carax is clearly more interested in

images than realism.

In the end, the lovers are saved from drowning in the Seine by a barge bearing the same name — Christian Fechner — as the producer who finally brought the film to the screen.

*Les Amants* has its detractors. "One hundred and sixty million francs, and for what? one bridge, three tramps and a cat," said the magazine *L'Express*.

But the general reaction has been cautiously favourable — a feeling that now it has reached the screen the public might as well enjoy it.

"The film is here. Nothing else counts... A film whose form, more than its content, oozes an emotion as pure and immediate as the great unforgettable pre-war melodramas," said *Le Monde*.

Masterpiece or flashy extravagance, *Les Amants* has succeeded in creating a myth

around its 32-year-old director with just his third feature.

Stories abound about Carax's ability to persuade his actors, crew and backers that they were creating something exceptional.

Binoche, star of the film of *Milan Kundera's Unbearable Lightness Of Being*, put a promising international career on hold for three years to see the project through.

When forced to half shooting, Carax organised poster campaigns declaring across France: "The Lovers Of the Pont Neuf will see the light of day."

Such boundless faith in himself both fired and exhausted Carax's tight circle of collaborators.

"I gave three years of my life to this adventure," Lavant told the film magazine *Premiere*. "On the last day of shooting, I heaved a great sigh of relief."

## No rest for weary Wagnerian opera singers

By Tim Klass  
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Some Forgo children. Others stay single. A few say they're away from home so much they sometimes wake up wondering where they are.

That's the price paid by opera singers who specialise in Wagnerian and other powerhouse roles for which the demand always seems to exceed the supply.

Tenor William Johns, a leading Wagnerian since 1977, said that for the last four years or so he has been

booked about three years in advance.

"I call it the glorified gypsy life," Johns said.

Years may pass without more than a week or two of vacation for singers like Johns, soprano Gudrun Volkert and bass-baritone John Del Carlo, who appeared in "Der Ring Des Niebelungen" at the Seattle Opera last summer.

Volkert revealed in a six-week break at home in Austria last spring after debuts at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires and the Scot-

tish Opera in Glasgow in less than a year.

"Back to my garden — ah, ah, to feel my roots. It is so necessary, so good to feel the earth," she said.

"All I sing, I feel, it goes through my heart," Volkert said. "It takes a little piece of my heart."

"There's definitely an element of sacrifice," Johns said. "You have to serve the profession."

For Del Carlo, a San Francisco native who turned 40 recently, singing Doner in "Das Rheingold" and Gunter in "Gottterdammerung" meant he was unable to check

on the construction of his new home in Port Richey, Florida.

On the other hand, he got to spend the summer with his wife, Deborah, and their 8-year-old daughter, Janine.

The next time the family will be together is two weeks in December after performances in Paris, Cologne, and Boston. He returns to Cologne in January, then heads for San Diego and won't see his family again until April.

Only the superstars can afford to bring their children from city to city, hiring tutors along the way, he said.

"That's the part I don't like about this business, the travel, because of separations," Del Carlo said. "It is unusual to maintain a family in this business."

When his agent called with another offer to follow San Diego, "We just looked at each and shook our heads," he said.

The 52-year-old Johns, who sang both Siegfried in the Seattle Ring, thought he had put a stop to the incessant travel. After 15 years without a break as long as three weeks, he had lined up a long breather while he and his wife moved from New

York state to a new home in Port Richey.

Then, late in May, he got a call for desperation. A Dutch tenor hired to sing Siegfried, Jan Blinkhof, had to undergo sinus surgery.

"It was very difficult for me to persuade my wife to give up our first real vacation... the first time in 17 years that I've had 2½ months off," Johns said.

"There's definitely an element of sacrifice," he said. "There's not anything that's all that exciting about it. It's all hard work, actually... kind of boring."

## Dutch art world torn by restoration of abstract canvas

By Sara Henley  
Reuters

AMSTERDAM — When a vandal slashed an abstract expressionist canvas in a museum here five years ago, he could not have foreseen the rift he would carve in the Dutch art world.

Art experts are seeing red at the restoration of U.S. artist Barnett Newman's abstract one-colour-style canvas, "Who's Afraid Of Red, Yellow And Blue III."

They charge that restorer Daniel Goldreyer used a paint roller and compounded the damage done by the assailant, who made eight careful incisions in the canvas in 1986.

Three experts contend that

subtle variations of colour in the world's original Colour Field (a massive red rectangle) have been destroyed by the well-known American restorer.

But the director of Amsterdam's Stedelijk Museum, which owns the work, has accepted the restoration as good.

The canvas was returned to the museum in August having spent five years — somewhat longer than expected — in Goldreyer's New York Studio.

The 815,000 guilder (\$424,000) cost of restoration was also about half as much again as budgeted in 1986, said museum spokesman Maarten Bertheux.

"Our own restorer El-

sabeth Bracht is of the opinion the work was done with a roller," said Mr. Bertheux. The experts also said Mr. Goldreyer may have used acrylic paint, instead of oils as used by Newman, who died in New York in 1970, aged 65.

Goldreyer has denied committing such deep artistic sacrilege. He has worked on paintings by abstract luminaries such as Elsworth Kelly, Robert Mangold and AD Reinhard.

Newman's original red rectangle was created by the interplay of vertical brushstrokes of magenta (pink) and sienna (orange) shades of red, wrote restorer Ijsbrand Hummelen in the Dutch newspaper *NRC Hand-*

elsblad. "There now hangs a clum-

sy imitation, on a destroyed work, a matt, closed, lifeless surface, a paradox of itself, which we are supposed to 'admire' in an absurd formation which totally clashes with Newman's conception," Mr. Hummelen wrote.

The restored work contradicts Newman's self-proclaimed aim of "confronting the dogma ... which had reduced red, yellow and blue into an idea-didact," the experts said.

The painting also boasts narrow vertical stripes, one in blue and one yellow on the extreme edges of the five and a half by two and a half metre (18 feet by eight feet) canvas.

But Mr. Goldreyer, who knew the late artist personally, said in August he had applied two million dots of

paint to the canvas, which was originally painted in the late 1960s.

He has demanded a published apology from his most outspoken detractor, restoration expert Ernst Van De Wetsting.

The museum's director Wim Beern has accepted Goldreyer's work on a task which many deemed impossible," Mr. Bertheux said.

"There were few restorers of standing who thought this job would be possible," he said.

But the row is hard to brush off because Amsterdam taxpayers footed most of the bill. A committee involving the city council has been set up to assess the case and decide on future steps.

It has asked Mr. Goldreyer for clarification on the techniques and materials he used. Mr. Goldreyer could not be contacted for comment at his New York studio.

Whatever its conclusion, the affair seems to be attracting visitors to the museum. On a recent Sunday afternoon, queues were longer than normal.

Inside Room 226, where the painting hangs, a warlike at her post next to the work said: "Nobody used to ever come in here. But this picture is so controversial they all come to form an opinion about it," she said.

"Yes, I saw it before it was slashed. It was, you could say, more transparent then."



## Feeling senile? China's got just the medicine for you

By Andrew Quinn  
Reuters

PEKING — Feeling senile? Here's just the stuff for you. One handy gulp-sized bottle of Qing Chun Bao anti-aging liquid will cut your stress, promote "anti-senility" and secure "the maintenance of unflagging strength."

Or so claims the English blurb on the packet. Chinese medicine, long the arcane province of Asian herbalists and Chinatown housewives, is attempting a marketing move into the mainstream.

While most Chinese remedies are still concocted by backroom chemists following ancient prescriptions, many are now produced by shiny, modern factories and sent to

store shelves in more consumer-friendly packaging.

Peking hopes that, spurred by a little English advertising, the world will snap them up.

"May I tell you about our cigarette? It is very good for curing haemorrhoids," said one eager young lady, who represented the Harbin Wan Long International Medicine Cigarette Company at a recent Peking conference on traditional medicine.

Shenhua-brand cigarettes, she explained, use herbal extracts to reduce swelling of both internal and external haemorrhoids, as well as to stop bleeding. The company's brochure promised to relieve the buyer of "unspeakable suffering."

"It doesn't cure cancer, but it can help with other problems," she said.

China's leaders, ever eager to publicise the country's historic achievements, are paying new attention to Chinese traditional medicine.

"Exports of Chinese medicine have expanded to include 105 countries and regions," Li Tieying, head of the State Education Commission, said at the recent opening of the international conference, the first of its kind ever held in China.

"Our national system for the production of Chinese medicine materials has taken shape."

The results of this system, ranging from innocuous-looking pills and vials to com-

plicated pieces of electrical machinery, were on display at Peking's premier convention centre.

There, armed with glossy brochures and an uncertain command of English, China's best medicinal salesmen were ready to flog their wares.

The Xianyang Health Care Products Plant was advertising its "505 mighty" vitality belt, which it said was a modern adaptation of a Tang Dynasty cure known as the "Belly-bag of longevity."

The bright plastic belt, stuffed with ingredients including ginseng and rhinoceros horn, should be worn around the waist by people suffering from "deficiency of vital energy and blood."

Blood deficiencies, along

with senility and a condition known as "hysterical paralysis" were also under attack by the People's Liberation Army (PLA), which showed its latest medicinal inventions in a large, gleaming booth at the fair.

Army doctors made their contributions to Chinese traditional medicine — including an anti-baldness elixir and herbal toilet paper — thanks to "the correct leadership of the Central Military Commission and the General Logistics Department," according to a PLA publicist.

"We are always working on new discoveries," said one assistant at the army's display.

Qinghai, a remote province inhabited largely by

nomads, was selling its special caterpillar tea. Tibet was marketing a number of pills, all of which are to be taken in the morning with glasses of warm liquor.

One of the most aggressive salesmen at the show hailed from the capitalist island of Taiwan. Wang Jui-Sheng's pride is a new cold cure, applied around the nostrils, which he has christened "nose smearing solution."

"It works, you'll never catch cold if you use it," he said in a booth decorated with awards and testimonials, including what he said was a deal with Saudi Arabia to begin producing the solution in the Arabian kingdom.

Nose smearing solution, like most of the products on

display, offers few clues as to its ingredients. Alarmingly, however, Mr. Wang does calmly relate how mice injected with the liquid "died of collapse."

The Chinese are proud of their medicinal tradition, which combines well-known procedures such as acupuncture and massage with ancient recipes for herbal poultices and oral cures made from a variety of plants and animals — some now endangered.

"History has proved, and will continue to show, that we are a creative race," Chu Jie, head of the National Bureau for Chinese Medicine, said in an address at the conference.

But while Chinese medicine has strong adherents

both in China and, in the West, its international marketing strategists still have a long way to go before most English-speaking hypochondriacs are lured into the fold.

Typical of the treatments on offer at the Peking show was "the electrothermal needle," an anti-cancer device developed by the Inner Mongolia Research Institute of Traditional Chinese-Mongolian Medicine.

The dangerous-looking apparatus was effective, the institute said in its promotional flier, because it "was manufactured on the theory of 'fire puncturing,' one of the nine needling techniques to puncture with a red-hot needle."

## Drive on to end bottle-feeding in world's hospitals

By Rene Pastor  
Reuters

MANILA — Health campaigners believe they have won an important victory in the battle to promote breast-feeding — a battle in which the lives of a million babies a year are at stake.

They have secured an international agreement to ban companies that make infant milk formula from distributing their products free in hospitals by 1992. Twelve countries say they will implement the ban by the end of 1991.

"This is a major step forward for us," said UNICEF Executive Director James Grant during a visit to Manila for a regional conference.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimates a decisive shift back to breast-feeding would prevent a million infant deaths every

year. Bottle-fed babies do not ingest the immunities against disease that mothers pass to breast-fed babies.

If a baby is bottle-fed shortly after birth, it is hard for the mother to encourage it to breast-feed later. Mothers are then landed with the expense of buying formula, Mr. Grant said.

UNICEF officials say the Philippines, along with Bolivia, Brazil, Egypt, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Thailand and Turkey have agreed to end free formula distribution in hospitals by the end of 1991.

The World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) is still suspicious of the formula manufacturers, saying companies such as Swiss-based Nestle Inc and the U.S. American Home Products Corp. are reluctant partners in the campaign.

"The milk companies are finally making a formal commitment to end supplies of substitute milk formula but ... it is unconscionable that it took them so long to do so," Anwar Fazal, the WABA coordinator based in Malaysia, said in an interview.

"The campaign has moved into a new, critical phase."

Suspicious of the milk companies stretch back to 1981, when they opposed an international code prohibiting the distribution of formula in

maternity wards. Mr. Fazal said the companies tried to undercut the code's effectiveness in country after country as part of a campaign to win a bigger share of a market worth \$4 billion a year.

"For every month they dragged their feet, we have as many deaths of babies as the Hiroshima disaster. For every week, the number of dead babies is equal to the Armenia earthquake," Mr. Fazal said. Some 140,000 people were killed when the

United States dropped an atomic bomb on the western Japanese city of Hiroshima in 1945. More than 25,000 people died in the Armenian earthquake in 1988.

Breast-feeding activists retaliated by organising a boycott that was called off only after manufacturers finally agreed in July to cooperate with the "baby-friendly hospital initiative," a breast-feeding promotion campaign by UNICEF and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

"Every effort should be made to protect, promote and support breast-feeding," WHO and UNICEF said.

The campaign involves getting mothers to breast-feed within half an hour of giving birth, giving newborn infants nothing other than breast milk and allowing mothers and infants to share the same hospital room all day long.

Mr. Grant wants hospitals that implement the campaign's rules to be designated "baby friendly," and for mothers to check if the hos-

pital they plan to use follows this initiative.

The campaign encourages consumers to apply pressure to both doctors and hospital administrators, as well as the milk companies.

Mr. Fazal said milk companies, including aggressive new Japanese firms, would try to find a way to circumvent the ban in Third World countries.

"The companies have been giving excuse after excuse all these years. They have been dragging their feet for 10

years on the 1981 code. Remember, they are only joining this programme conditionally," he said.

One of their tactics, Mr. Fazal said, was to forcefully push "follow-on" formulas for babies over six months.

"The kind of advertisement used has the effect of undermining breastfeeding in a significant way," Mr. Fazal said.

"That is why it is important to set up mother support groups around the world to encourage them to breast-feed."

## Psychiatrist treats LSD users on 'permanent trip'

By Stephanie Schorow  
The Associated Press

BOSTON — A 37-year-old man's vision has never returned to normal after his

first and only experiment with LSD 20 years ago.

"He sees the air," said Henry D. Abraham, a psychiatrist at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Boston, who has

studied more than 200 people whose vision he believes has been altered permanently by LSD use.

"He sees geometric designs. He sees false movement in his peripheral vision. He sees colours. He watches them at night."

Dr. Abraham calls the man's condition Post-Hallucinogenic Perceptual Disorder and said the condition often goes unrecognized or misdiagnosed as a psychiatric problem.

"It's one of the most underappreciated diagnoses in all of psychiatry," said Dr. Abraham.

The hallucinogenic drug LSD has been linked to so-called flashbacks, in which

weeks or months after an LSD trip, the person re-experiences the sensations.

PHPD is not necessary tripping again but more a permanent altering of the way people see, according to Dr. Abraham.

Some victims see geometric patterns or dots across their vision field; colours burn with great intensity and can shift in hue. Halos or mists appear around objects; faces appear in rugs, linoleum tiles or clouds. "The sky is never clear," one patient told Dr. Abraham.

Another patient sees a light, like a flash bulb, every five seconds. Another reports he can't look at the contrast colours in the Dunkin'

Donuts sign without beginning to hallucinate.

Dr. Abraham said he often holds up a red pen, and asks if the patient can see it. They say yes. He puts his hand down, and asks if they see a red pen. They say yes.

Seeing such images is characteristic of the condition, which Dr. Abraham said he first noticed when treating drug overdoses as a resident at Massachusetts General Hospital. "Coming through the door were some of Timothy Leary's social experiments and no one was paying any attention to it," he said.

Not all LSD experts agree with Dr. Abraham.

Harvard University Psychiatrist Lester Grinspoon, co-author of two books on psychedelic drugs, said that in his years of research, "I've never had people who have reported this."

Ronald K. Lester, a psychopharmacologist with the University of California at Los Angeles, said frequent LSD users may develop hypersensitivity to "flashes" — the minute specks on the lens of the eye. But he is not convinced this represents a permanent vision change.

All three agree, however, that use of LSD, or Lysergic Acid Diethylamide, has been recently growing in popularity.

## French AIDS contamination scandal provokes anger

By Lee Yanowitch  
Reuters

PARIS — Six years after catching the AIDS virus from a contaminated blood transfusion, Michele waits for a sign that she is going to die.

Although she has not yet been diagnosed with full-blown AIDS, the 36-year-old mother of two has lost weight and suffers from skin eruptions, diarrhoea and fatigue.

It is a plight that need never have befallen her.

Thousands of people like Michele are suffering from the failure of France's National Blood Transfusion Centre (CNTS) to stop the spread of infected blood in 1984 and 1985.

The fact that the affair is finally turning into a national scandal, with senior medical officers being charged with criminal negligence and fraud, is of little comfort to them.

"I dreamed last night I had AIDS. I'm pretty serene when I think of being ill," said Michele. "If it happens, I'll be relieved. I won't have to hope anymore, or to wait."

She has been through a bureaucratic as well as a physical nightmare, with doctors refusing to tell her the truth about how and when she was infected.

Thousands of people are demanding government compensation over contaminated transfusions. Haemophilic associations say 200 of their members have died.

A leaked Health Ministry report suggested that up to 400,000 people may have contracted hepatitis or the HIV virus which leads to acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) from contaminated blood.

Jean-Pierre Allain, head of research at CNTS and Michel Garretta, its former director, have been indicted on fraud charges for distributing blood they knew might be AIDS-contaminated. If convicted, they face four years in prison and fines of up to 500,000 francs (\$87,000).

Other CNTS staff face charges of criminal negligence.

In September, a Health Ministry investigation found that in order to use existing untreated stocks the CNTS delayed the introduction of a heating technique to disinfect blood.

Each day new allegations surface in the French press, but no one has yet accepted full responsibility.

One indicted official, former director of public health Jacques Roux, has blamed former Prime Minister Laurent Fabius, saying he cut

funds for AIDS tests and the blood screening donations while prime minister.

Mr. Fabius, now speaker of the National Assembly, is suing Mr. Roux for libel.

The Socialist government said recently that it will compensate anyone who has fallen ill from the transfusions. Michele would rather bring the doctor who ruined her life to justice.

"I just want the truth to come out. I want to humiliate him, so he'll know what it's like to live as an AIDS carrier, to be humiliated each time I have to announce to someone that I'm infected," she says.

She had been receiving blood at a clinic in a suburb of Paris since 1983, when she began dialysis for a kidney disease.

Her doctor, who had refused her repeated requests to give her an AIDS test, finally told her in December 1987 she was infected with the virus.

"I knew I was contaminated by the transfusions. I knew it in my head. I had received 20 to 30 units of blood," she says.

Three years ago, Michele filed charges after her doctor blocked her access to her medical records.

The Health Ministry in-

quiry traced the donors who gave her blood and found that one was an AIDS carrier.

"I could have infected my husband. Thank God, I didn't."

Michele accuses the doctor of purchasing CNTS blood which he knew to be unscreened instead of going to a transfusion centre in the northern city of Lille where heat treatment was introduced in February 1985.

"He could have gone to Lille. He was entirely aware of what he was doing. But it was to save money," she said.

Michele, her husband and their two children stopped going on holiday in 1987. No other dialysis clinic would treat her when they found out she was infected with AIDS.

She writes letters daily to a judge, demanding punishment for the officials who treated her, but has had no reply.

Michele's case has been blocked for five months.

"The family has to put up with my moods. I get very aggressive, depressed. Each time I come back from the clinic I bring either good news or bad."

"You realise at a certain point that there are some people who are untouchable," she says. "I'm sure the doctor will never be caught."

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

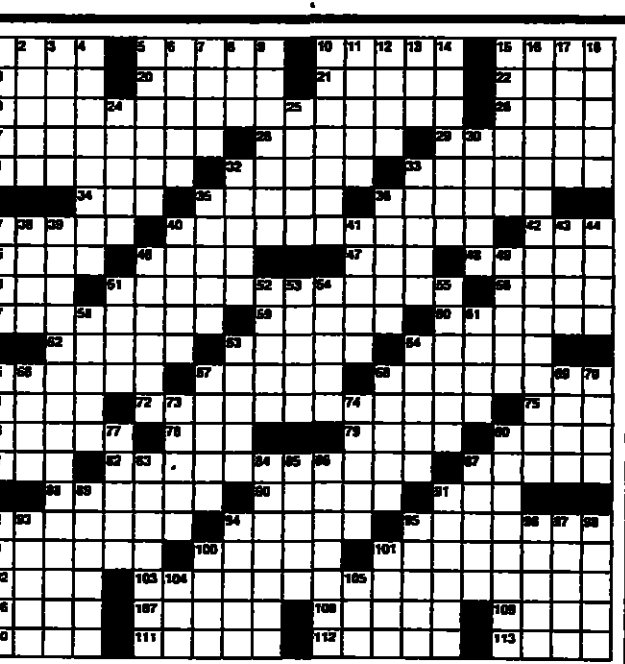
PICTURE ALBUM  
By Don Johnson

ACROSS  
1 "Remember —"  
5 Intrepid  
10 Food fan  
15 Instance  
18 Excruciate  
20 Customary  
21 Jeopardy  
22 Macdonald film  
23 Maple genus  
24 Maritime Detroit  
25 oster  
26 Perform of  
27 Leaves from a  
28 Official garments  
29 Rages  
31 Designated  
32 Thicket ends

33 Conjecture  
34 Two-year-old  
35 sheep  
36 "— were the  
37 Emphasize  
38 Sheer linen  
39 More Shearer  
40 "— of Salem"  
41 Children's game  
42 "— of Salem"  
43 (Claudette)  
44 Synagogue  
45 "— a Camera"  
46 Actor, Mt  
47 Starwreck vehicle  
48 Decrease  
49 gradually  
50 Curving term

51 Singer Haggard  
52 Smiley person  
53 Handel  
54 Sifton  
55 Light  
56 Cowboy often  
57 Evil sprits  
58 Of summer  
59 Gary Cooper film  
60 "— of Salem"  
61 (Reagan)  
62 Petrus  
63 Synagogue  
64 Deeds  
65 Freshy fruit  
66 Founded abbr.  
67 Chapin work  
68 "The Witches"  
69 of  
70 Horse test

71 Joyce Carol —  
72 Bag —  
73 Paces for treating  
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76 Curious vessels  
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79 Of summer  
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89 "The Witches"  
90 of  
91 Horse test

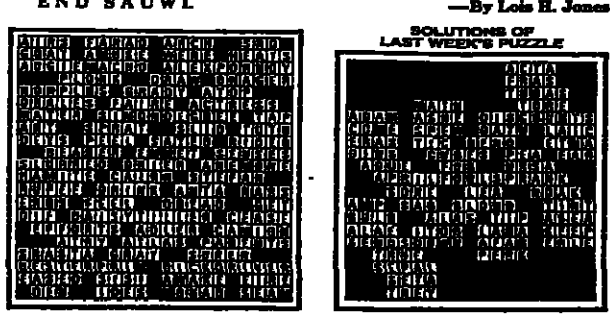


Last Week's Cryptograms

1. If we refused to eat every single thing that is bad for our body, we would starve to death.
2. Cryptograms which are made up using many short words are easy. Or are they?
3. When old Humpty Dumpty's wife fell off wall, royal horsemen got together to get her together again.
4. Outraged in-laws label wastefully incorrigible outlaw "country's least wanted."

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. SNOB NIXKUSOQB PTE NIQ ZUBO. SEDAN  
SEXQ QSEBAND PLUG NOL CLUUG DU NOL  
CLUTZNIG. —By Ed Bradley
2. KJ OIVVZKJM N CVONFVJ RVQ N TEM  
MNQTNNS EXBY. TS SEJEXXC FINE VJS  
BNJ'Z ZVVCXFEVJ KZ NJVFISQ BNJ'Z  
VYCCXFEVJ. —By Gordon Miller
3. PDYJELAK JTIA ADNLT EKDJK RDYJ  
ELDKJ GBNV NDELIK RDVLY  
VGBTEKX. —By Earl Ireland
4. CASPER UBSEW'I ACESD NUI IE  
WAUOTISTB PA UOCEIS RWENDAR TD PTI  
END SAUWL. —By Lois E. Jones



Diagramless 10 X 19, By James Barrie

ACROSS  
1 Sole  
2 Horse god of  
3 Thunder  
4 Main or Midland  
5 Group of islands  
6 Winding bird  
7 Supreme horse  
8 god  
9 Powers  
10 "— for All  
Seasons"  
11 Vex

24 "— podlike  
25 Col  
26 Small piece  
27 Final alert  
28 Secret  
29 Foundation  
30 Old Fr. coin  
31 Foreign  
32 Means  
33 Justifier  
34 Rates  
35 Mine entrance  
36 Made an attempt

41 Kind of pool or  
42 scooter  
43 Love god  
44 Most calm  
45 Instance  
46 Old Nick  
47 Bird and  
48 Actor Skinner  
49 Connection with  
50 Cuts  
51 Col. course  
52 Allegory  
53 Healthy  
54 Musical sounds  
55 Eat a late meal

16 Famous  
17 "— in  
"Wonderland"  
18 Artist of a hand  
19 Ancient lang.  
20 Maroon  
21 Set the wrong  
22 way  
23 Settlement  
24 Snapped  
25 Shards  
26 Tired for office

37 Examination  
38 Defeated  
39 Comes to be  
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42 Spectator  
43 Col. course  
44 Allegory  
45 Healthy  
46 Musical sounds  
47 Eat a late meal

51 Ship of 1482  
52 Mr. Sheriff  
53 Marquis notice  
54 Neighbor of Nev.  
55 Protective  
56 garment  
57 Sprockets  
58 Leaf  
59 As blind as —  
60 Scotia  
61 Rehearsal  
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## Syria 'determined' to reclaim territory

(Continued from page 1)

Israel before multilaterals can begin.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader told Al Masdar he expects separate bilateral talks between Israel and Syria, Lebanon and a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to resume next week, probably in Washington.

Multilaterals might be held in Moscow, he said, but did not say

when American and Israeli officials in Washington said Tuesday that they will be next month in Europe.

In the interview, Mr. Arafat warned that the Middle East "will explode" if the current peace process fails.

He also said the Palestinians will not accept transitional self-rule proposed by the United States and Israel unless it is coupled with Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

## Opponents challenge negotiators

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinians.

Efforts by Hamas activists to enforce a commercial strike during the Madrid peace conference lost the movement a great deal of support.

Hamas lost a major local election in the occupied Gaza Strip earlier this month to mainstream supporters. Nationalists backed by the Fatah movement won 13 of 16 seats on the board of the Gaza

Strip Chamber of Commerce.

But Hamas' well-organized and highly motivated activists insist that Palestinian opponents of the peace talks still outnumber supporters.

"I believe the Palestinian people will not... sell out their land, and Israel will not give them (the Palestinian delegation) something that our people will accept," said an activist who did not wish to be named.

## Iraq gets new interior minister

(Continued from page 1)

ruled Revolution Command Council, the eight-man body chaired by President Saddam which is the country's highest authority.

President Saddam's son Uday has announced that he is temporarily suspending publication of his Babil (Babylon) newspaper, a lively semi-official daily which broke with the staid style of Iraq's five official dailies.

No reason was given. Uday paid tribute to his father's support for the daily.

On Monday, President issued what appeared to be veiled criticism of Babil's style, which included coverage of Iraqi women turning to prostitution, a popularity poll and some criticism of ministers which the rival media would not have printed.

President Saddam, visiting Ministry of Information headquarters in Baghdad, said the local media should concentrate on the jihad (holy war) Iraq was waging against United Nations' sanctions.

## Israelis clash with UNIFIL

(Continued from page 1)

on the 1,100-square-kilometre "security zone" early in the month to underline its rejection of the Arab-Israeli peace talks, sponsored by the United States and the Soviet Union in Madrid.

Israel usually retaliates for such raids with air and artillery attacks on villages accused of being used by guerrillas as a staging theater.

Hizbollah's attack came as the head of the Iranian foreign minis-

try's Middle East department, Mohamed Kazem Khonsari, concluded a one-week stay in Lebanon.

## The Liberty quotes

By Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

A retired Israeli officer who now denies confirming our report last week that Israel attacked the USS Liberty 24 years ago knowing it was an American spy ship told an Israeli newspaper that he might be in danger.

His fear could explain why the former major, an American named Seth Mintz, was quoted by New York Times columnist A. M. Rosenthal as saying that he was "misquoted, quoted out of context, used, abused and screwed" by "that charge, together with Mr. Mintz's letter to The Post saying we 'seriously misrepresent (ed)' him, requires an answer, including further elaboration of what Mr. Mintz told us Oct. 22.

His memory is critical to getting to the heart of one of the most disgraceful episodes in American naval history. As expressed to us, Mr. Mintz's story fits what Dwight Porter, former U.S. ambassador in Beirut, revealed to this column in breaking his long public silence: Embassy radio intercepts showed that the Israelis attacked the Liberty on June 8, 1967, with the knowledge that it was a U.S. ship.

Last June 7, at a Washington reunion, Mr. Mintz told former crew member Bob Casale in a videotaped conversation, the transcript of which we have read: "They (the Israelis) knew... even when it was happening. Pilots in the Mirage attack were saying that it was an American ship. You could read the numbers on the side of the ship. There was no big secret."

Mr. Mintz was present in the Israeli war room in Tel Aviv in the hours leading up to the attack. On Nov. 6, the day our column was published quoting him as saying that Israel "was convinced" the Liberty was an American spy ship, he was interviewed by the prominent Israeli newspaper, Ha'aretz.

In a Washington dispatch published in Ha'aretz Nov. 7, Mr. Mintz expressed "grave anxiety over the media interest in him" with regard to the Liberty affair. He told Ha'aretz: "Everyone is after me now, and that is what I'm afraid of. I don't need the Mossad and Shin Bet knocking on my door."

Mossad is the Israeli secret intelligence service with a much-feared worldwide network of agents. Shin Bet performs the same task for the military. Both are politically influential instruments of high-level Israeli policy on all national security matters. Mr. Mintz may believe himself in danger for telling us the truth. What he heard and saw during several hours while top Israel Defence Forces (IDF) officers studied photographs of the Liberty, taken by Mr. Mintz, reveals vital new information and helps tear apart a great mystery.

There was no appearance of any restraint by Mr. Mintz when he answered our telephone call in his Houlton, Maine, home and spoke to us for more than 15 minutes — enough for two legal pad pages' worth of notes. Mintz is a U.S. citizen who went to Israel to become a member of kibbutz Nirum in 1962. He joined the Israeli army in 1965 and happened to be present in the IDF war room on June 8, 1967, the second day of the Six-day War.

In his discussion at the Liberty reunion in June, Mr. Mintz said: "I was in the Israeli military, but I'm born in this country."

In our conversation, he did not put a single word off the record. Now Mr. Mintz finds himself caught up in a web of poisonous international intrigue that both Israel and the United States have spent 24 years trying to prevent unraveling. Mr. Mintz's candid words to us were no more ambiguous than the Liberty's harsh statistics: 34 U.S. Navy men killed, 171 wounded.

Barbour (Walworth Barbour,

then U.S. ambassador to Israel) said it was not an American ship," Mr. Mintz told us. "The ship had been marked and tracked (in the war room) on a chart board. Everyone in the room felt it was an American ship, and that it was the Liberty... it matched Jane's Fighting Ships. The consensus in the room was that it was not the El Quseir."

Israel's preliminary report to the United States after the attack stated: "Liberty resembles the Egyptian supply ship El Quseir." The El Quseir spent the entire war in port at Alexandria, a fact Israel must have known. Moreover, it was less than half the Liberty's size, had none of its high-tech antenna array, did not fly a large American flag and had no hull markings similar to the Liberty's. The war room did not make that mistake.

"So if it was not a U.S. or an Egyptian ship," Mr. Mintz told us, "it could be Soviet, but everyone felt positive it was American. In the early afternoon, the order came from outside the war room to attack the ship. I cannot think anyone would dare to attack what they knew — or thought — was an American ship. The Israelis are guilty of an outrage."

Mr. Mintz then told us of a second "outrage": the U.S. embassy refusal to acknowledge the truth about the spy ship, thus giving Israel a pretext. In fact, however, spy ships are seldom acknowledged by their owners.

He said that Israel "intended to sink the ship." Almost certainly this was to prevent its interception of top-secret orders to Israeli forces massing in the north to attack Syria.

Mr. Mintz deserves from the U.S. government whatever security protection he needs if his concerns about the Mossad and Shin Bet are real. Despite the close bonds between Israel and the United States, the remnant of the Liberty's crew and the American people also deserve something: at least a true and official accounting of what lies behind Mintz's riveting testimony — The Washington Post.

## China-Iran cooperation fuels new challenge to Bush policy

By Carol Giacomo  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — China's sale of nuclear technology to Iran has given fresh ammunition to Americans who criticize President George Bush for insisting on close ties with Peking.

When news of a China-Iran nuclear connection broke this week — and was acknowledged by Washington — Secretary of State James Baker was considering visiting the Chinese capital next month.

Now, congressional sources say, it would be harder than ever for Mr. Baker to justify such a trip in the eyes of many Americans critical of Peking's record on human rights and nuclear proliferation.

The nuclear controversy likely will erode even further the already frayed ties between two of the world's most powerful countries. They were badly damaged when Peking cracked down on pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in 1989.

The latest source of friction between Peking and Washington came with a report in the Washington Post on Wednesday that China had been helped Iran develop a nuclear bomb.

U.S. officials confirmed that they believe Iran is actively seeking to develop a nuclear weapon and has bought equipment from China capable of producing enriched uranium used in such arms.

China said on Thursday it was helping Iran to develop nuclear energy for peaceful uses and denied reports it was helping Tehran produce nuclear weapons — a disclaimer not likely to satisfy the United States or other nations concerned about the spread of nuclear weapons.

Iran and the United States have been at odds since 1979 when Islamic fundamentalists overthrew the U.S.-backed shah and took 52 Americans hostage. They were held for 444 days in the U.S. embassy in Tehran. Sophisticated equipment from China that could be used in civilian nuclear energy programmes

but was also capable of producing highly enriched uranium for atomic weapons.

"It appears that there is the sale of some nuclear-related technologies," Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon told a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Wednesday.

"It's something that we have talked to the Chinese about and will pursue," he said. "It is a matter of concern."

As for China's disclaimer, members of congress who attended a closed-door briefing with U.S. intelligence officials on the nuclear-trade issue made plain they would not be dissuaded by any general protestations of innocence.

Senator Alan Cranston, a California Democrat, said his concerns about "reports Iran is developing a nuclear weapons capability with Chinese assistance have been greatly intensified."

He complained that the Bush administration has not done enough to discourage China's nuclear proliferation and argued that Mr. Baker either should not go to Peking on his Asia trip or should go primarily to press for an end to proliferation.

A congressional source told Reuters that without China's help Iran could not build a nuclear weapon.

This source, who asked not to be identified, said Iran is also

talking to Pakistan, Argentina and Brazil but "none of them even comes close to China" in being able to offer the sophisticated technology for nuclear arms.

At least two dozen Chinese nuclear scientists are now in Iran, he said.

Mr. Bush, an envoy to Peking in the 1970s who has an unusually strong emotional investment in preserving the revived U.S.-China relationship, imposed sanctions on China after the Tiananmen Square massacre.

But he has resisted punishing China to the degree his critics have demanded.

Congress several months ago passed legislation that would end special trade benefits, called most-favoured-nation, or MFN, trade status, for China in 1992 unless Peking met concerns about arms proliferation and human rights.

Congress set that bill aside when Mr. Bush threatened to veto it, and administration officials are confident it is dead for this year.

But a senior U.S. official told Reuters U.S. grievances with China — the sale of missiles to Syria and Pakistan, the use of forced labour in exports products, human rights abuses and trade barriers — were so numerous "we're going to have renewal problems (with MFN) every year for some time."

## Seminar condemns Israeli actions against libraries in occupied lands

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on the conditions of libraries in the occupied Arab territories concluded Wednesday, with participants recommending

to pressure Israel in order to put a limit to its repressive measures against the population of the territories and their culture.

Participants in the three-day seminar, which opened at the Royal Cultural Centre Monday, also stressed the need for providing assistance to libraries in the occupied Arab lands and called for establishing a research and studies centre to promote the works of libraries.

The recommendations called on the international community to pressure Israel in order to put a limit to its repressive measures against the population of the territories and their culture.

## Numbers add up to hunger in Iraq, but who pays?

By Andrew Hill  
Reuter

BAGHDAD — The mathematics of U.N. sanctions add up to hunger for thousands of Iraqis this winter. But figures showing how the country imports food are far less clear.

Aid workers, both private and official, say that all available data points to hardship for the most vulnerable Iraqis this winter because of shortages and a world trade embargo.

"There are two million young, sick and vulnerable in this country. My impression is that Iraq is on a long-term slide," said Douglas Broderick, head of the U.S. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) agency in Iraq.

Mr. Broderick, whose agency started work in Iraq after the Gulf war, and other relief staff say the government is somehow managing to provide Iraqis with about one third of their food requirements at subsidised prices, but are puzzled how.

Iraq has never been more than 30 per cent self-sufficient in food. Government schemes to slash re-

liance on imports were abruptly suspended by the Gulf crisis but the embargo has given fresh impetus to the plans.

The government has repeatedly said that it has no money. It says its \$4 billion of hard currency assets are frozen in foreign bank accounts by governments seeking war reparations or awaiting Iraq's total compliance with Gulf war ceasefire terms.

It complains that it cannot import food and drugs and that shortages of both have caused the deaths of thousands.

"We are a rich country. We have oil. This should not happen," one official said.

"We have no money. Mehdi have is frozen money," Minister of Trade Mohammad Mehdi Saleh told Reuters in a recent interview.

"Iraq never kept its dollars in Iraq. We kept 75 per cent in the United States," he said.

But he and other officials are coy about how the government manages to put limited quantities of flour, sugar, tea, oil and other essentials into government

shops where they are sold at a fraction of prices prevailing on a runaway free market.

The trade minister is proud of the fact that frozen French chickens have arrived in warehouses to be distributed at about one sixth of the market price. Asked how it managed to buy the birds, he replied: "I don't know."

Traders with access to hard currency can import what they want and sell their wares to the highest bidder. Rumours of tougher sanctions caused panic buying last month which emptied supermarket shelves.

Relief workers say that before August last year when the United Nations imposed a trade blockade to punish Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, Iraq spent \$4 billion a year in food itself.

This paid for imports as well as subsidising local production and accounted for the fact that Iraqis, by the standards of nutritionists, were over-fed, consuming 3,200 calories daily. About 2,200 is regarded as a healthy intake.

They may be below that level now, aid workers say, because of shortages — mostly of the money

required to buy food imported privately in the markets, where prices are often 60 times those at government shops.


"I would estimate that less than 50 per cent of Iraqis' food needs are being met. The middle class and rich are spending their savings. The poor are living on whatever they can lay their hands on," said Mr. Broderick.

Back-of-the-envelope mathematics suggests that Iraq is spending \$1.3 billion a year to meet one third of basic requirements, or about \$100 million a month, aid workers say.

It is not allowed to sell any oil under the sanctions. The monthly bill could be met by selling about 156,000 barrels per day of crude or 4.7 million barrels per month.

Iraq has rejected strings-attached U.N. proposals that would have allowed it to sell a limited amount of oil.

Oil Minister Usama Al Hiti told Reuters that Iraq was producing only 450,000 BPD for domestic consumption and was selling nothing. "We cannot sell," he said.



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**Jordan Times**



## Agassi starts title defence with victory over Becker

FRANKFURT (R) — American Andre Agassi began the defence of his ATP Tour World Championship title in confident style by defeating Boris Becker in straight sets on his home German soil.

The 21-year-old world number eight served superbly and played some brilliant ground strokes to seal his first round-robin group match 6-3 7-5 in one hour and 39 minutes.

The result marked Agassi's fifth consecutive victory over the German world number three, who has not beaten the American since 1989.

The French Open finalist joined Czechoslovak Ivan Lendl, the oldest man in the tournament, and American Jim Courier as winners on the opening day's group matches at the Frankfurt event, the traditional end to the ATP Tour's season.

Lendl, 31, hardly wasted a second in a commanding 6-2 6-4 victory over Frenchman Guy Forget which took just 75 minutes.

His fast finishing contrasted sharply with Courier's energy-sapping 6-7 7-5 6-4 victory over Czechoslovak Karel Novacek in the first of a gruelling two hours and 40 minutes.

Agassi's match did not start until 2255 local time but the American seemed wide awake. He broke Becker's service in the second game and went on to take the first set 6-3 in 42 minutes with a masterful display of accurate ground strokes.

Becker, roared on by the partisan German crowd in the indoor Festhalle Arena, had opportunities to get back into the match.

But he failed to take any of the four break points he had on Agassi's first service game of the second set. After the rest of the games went to serve, the American made a crucial break in the 11th game to take a 6-3 lead before serving successfully for the minutes.

Agassi said Becker was unlucky to lose the Group B match. "He's played well every time we have played. But I thought he was just bottom line unlucky," Agassi said.

"It is really unfair that we were not out there playing a third set. He had five or six break points and I just had one and it worked out."

Becker was critical of the timing of the match. Organisers kept to a 75-minute break between the first and second match for television reasons.

"When the draw was made I asked if this was fair. TV is more important than tennis these days," Becker complained.

"It was a very close match but somehow I just couldn't get a break ... I'm going to dream about that game when I had four break points."

Lendl looked as sharp and eager as ever against the 26-year-old Forget despite a disappointing year in which he slipped to fifth in the world rankings, his lowest position for 10 years. The Czechoslovak made key breaks of serve in the fifth and



Andre Agassi

seventh game to run away with the first set 6-2 in 35 minutes.

Once he had broken the Frenchman again in the third game of the second set, the outcome of the contest never looked in doubt.

Courier, playing in the same group A as Lendl, had to work a

lot harder for his victory. After losing the first set in the tiebreak, the American had to show all his competitive bite to overcome Novacek who only stepped into the tournament at the weekend after Sweden's world number one Stefan Edberg withdrew.

## Vicario, Garrison win in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Third-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and No. 8 Zina Garrison won their opening matches in the Virginia Slims of Philadelphia tennis tournament.

But fifth-seeded Mary Joe Fernandez fell prey to the overpowering serve of Brenda Schultz in a 6-1, 2-6, 6-4 first-round upset in the \$350,000 event.

Sanchez Vicario, who had a first-round bye, had to battle to get past Tami Whitlinger 6-0, 3-6, 6-2 in a second-round match. Garrison rolled over 15-year-old Joanne Moore 6-0, 6-0 in a first-round meeting.

In other first-round matches, seventh-seeded Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere eliminated Elizabeth Smylie, 6-1, 6-2; Lori McNeil defeated Eva Sviglerova 6-1, 1-6, 6-2; Helena Sukova beat Elena Briokovets 6-3, 6-4; and Natalia Svereva topped Sabine Appelmans 6-4, 6-2.

Sanchez Vicario needed only 22 minutes to win the first set but, perhaps slowed by a head cold, she faltered in the second, losing her service in the first game and again in the third to fall behind 3-0. Whitlinger got another service break in the final game of the set when Sanchez Vicario hit a forehand long.

The two traded breaks in the first two games of the third set and Sanchez Vicario had to save a

pair of break points to tie the set at 2-2.

In the next game, it was Whitlinger's turn to save a pair of break points, but she lost her serve when she hit a forehand into the net. She double faulted to fall behind 5-2 and allowed Sanchez Vicario to serve out the match.

Moore, a student at Nick Bollettieri's Tennis Academy in Bradenton, Florida, was no factor against Garrison, who recorded six service breaks and never faced a break point.

Schultz, whose serves were measured as high as 105 mph (169 kph) during the match, handed Fernandez her earliest defeat of the year. In 17 previous tournaments in 1991, Fernandez, the world's seventh-ranked player, had no loss in the first round and had advanced as far as the quarterfinals in 15 of the events.

The 6-foot-2 (188-centimetre), 170-pound (77-kilogram) Schultz, No. 35 in the world and winner of one tournament this year, avenged a 7-6, 6-3 loss to Fernandez in the second round of the U.S. Open.

The match started to go wrong for Fernandez when she won the coin toss and elected to receive, as she won only one point off Schultz's serve in the first game.

Schultz took a 3-1 lead with first service break, as Fernandez

hit a backhand shot wide, and broke again for a 5-1 advantage when Fernandez doubled faulted. She won the set with a service winner in the next game.

Fernandez seemed to adjust to Schultz's serve in the second set, getting a break in the sixth game, when Schultz hit a volley out, and another in the eighth, when she hit a service return winner.

Schultz changed tactics in the third set, relying more on placement of her serve than power, and got the only break of the set in the third game.

Fernandez hit a volley long to fall behind 15-40, saved one break point with a service winner, but lost the game when Schultz hit a backhand shot cross-court.

"When I serve hard and Mary Joe gets a racket on it, it comes back even faster," Schultz said. "In the third set, I decided to play the serve at her body and make her make the shots instead of hitting it as hard as I could, and it worked. I got easier volleys."

Schultz did not face a break point on her serve in the third set and won the match when Fernandez hit a return out.

"She served well today and didn't have a lot of double faults," Fernandez said.

McNeil won the first four games of her match against Sviglerova, and took a 1-0 lead in the second set.

## Magic wants to play in Olympics despite HIV

NEW YORK (AP) — Magic Johnson says he wants to play in the Olympics next summer, although his doctors have told him the rigors of playing basketball might hasten the onset of AIDS.

"If I'm healthy, I might very well be on the floor for the opening tap at Barcelona," Johnson, who is infected with the AIDS-related HIV virus, wrote in this week's issue of Sports Illustrated magazine.

Johnson says he has dreamed all his life about playing on a team with Michael Jordan and Larry Bird, who have also been named to the Olympic team.

"I get goose bumps just thinking about what it would be like to be on the floor with those guys," he says.

"And I want to bring back the gold medal. I've accomplished everything in this game — from a team perspective and individually. I've won championships in high school, college and the pros. And I've won every award there is. But I don't have an Olympic gold medal. God willing, I'll get it."

## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

### Schwarz wins Catalonia Rally

LLORCA DE MAR, Spain (R) — Finn Juha Kankkunen, driving a Lancia, snatched the lead in the World Championship standings with a storming second place in the Spain-Catalonia Rally Wednesday. Germany's Armin Schwarz won the four-day rally in a total time of six hours 44 minutes 42 seconds, one minute 33 seconds ahead of Kankkunen. The Finn is now perfectly placed to take the world title from Spaniard Carlos Sainz, who was forced to pull out of the penultimate rally of the season with electrical failure. Schwarz never looked in danger, but Kankkunen came into his own on the dirt-road stages after a slack start, charging from third place to chop the German's overnight lead in half. Frenchman Francois Delecour drove his Ford Sierra brilliantly over asphalt but found the going tougher on dirt and fell back into third place.

### Australia moves to Olympic playoff

NADI, Fiji (R) — Striker David Seal headed a last minute goal to give Australia a 2-1 win over New Zealand in an Olympic soccer qualifier Wednesday, putting them into a playoff for a place in next year's Barcelona finals. The Australians came back conceding their first goal in five qualifiers late in the game to take an unbeatable lead in the Oceania Group with a 100 per cent record. The victory set up a two-legged playoff against the winners of European Group 8 in which Sweden held a two-point lead over Israel going into their next match Thursday. New Zealand went ahead in the 69th minute through Vaughan Coveny. But Australia hit back quickly when New Zealand keeper Julian Fallon sliced a clearance kick from a speculative long range shot by John Markovski into his own net.

### S. Union, Cuba lead in volleyball

TOKYO (AP) — The world champion Soviet Union and defending champion Cuba scored their fifth straight preliminary round victories Wednesday, marching into the final round of the World Cup Women's Volleyball. Also advancing into the final round with the Soviet Union in group A were Peru and South Korea, each with 3-2 records in the preliminaries. China, 4-1, and the United States, 3-2, joined Cuba in advancing from Group B. In Wednesday's Group A matches in Gifu, central Japan, the Soviet Union beat Canada, 16-14, 15-12, 15-17, 15-5; Peru beat Spain 15-3, 15-11, 15-1; and South Korea beat Japan 6-15, 15-11, 15-6, 11-15, 17-15. Canada is 1-4. South Korea and Japan both were 3-2, but South Korea had a better ratio of sets won. In Group B matches in Kyoto, western Japan, the United States beat Germany 15-8, 15-8, 15-8; China beat Kenya 15-2, 15-0, 15-2; and Cuba beat Brazil 17-15, 16-17, 4-15, 15-11, 15-9. Germany is 1-4 and Brazil 2-3. The final round starts Friday.

### Forget heads French Davis Cup squad

PARIS (AP) — Henri Leconte, struggling to rebound from back surgery, was named Tuesday along with two lesser-known players to join No. 6 ranked Guy Forget on the French team that will face the United States in the upcoming Davis Cup final. The composition of the squad leaves several options as the captain, Yannick Noah, and French tennis officials ponder who to pick for the doubles team and for the No. 2 singles spot behind Forget. Named along with Forget, 26, and Leconte, 28, were Olivier Delatre and Arnaud Boetsch. Delatre, ranked 42nd, has never played a Davis Cup match, while Boetsch, ranked 54th, made his debut in September in doubles against a depleted Yugoslav team. Fabrice Santoro, one of the heroes of France's victories over Australia and Yugoslavia, was named as a reserve.

## HOROSCOPE

### FORECAST FOR FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are under good aspects for locating the presents, remembrances, cards and like items that you want to share with others and for dealing with anything of a detailed nature.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can have one of your happiest of days, evenings now so quickly get behind you the many and varied tasks facing you and make desired plans.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Now you are able to find the various and sundry means by which you are able to delight your family and draw them much closer to you.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Your mind is clever, ingenious and has a truly broad scope to it now so make a point to show you are the one who does value the good will of usual allies.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Now you are able to see how you can have a far greater abundance than is currently yours so make a point to consult with businessmen how to obtain it.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You can have a wonderful day if you use every spare moment to be with those who have your interests at heart and who are able to bring you success.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get into the various new ideas that inspire you and quietly see if they are what can bring you far more benefits than you have yet

been able to manifest.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Whatever you want to do that requires you get the good will of pals with whom you have a very pleasant personal relationship is very good now.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You have it in the palm of your hand now to contact that bigwig and let him in on that momentous plan that can make your reputation soar.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Your need for some very interesting and well informed new persons in your life is great and you get rid of boredom by locating them now.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Give a note or a moment to one who has been a creditor to you when it helped you very much and you are able to get that persons desirable backing your future projects.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Your mind is keen and sharp now and you can easily see all sides of any situation and how you can gain the good will of those close to you.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You have the right now to do those things and make those connections to fellow associates if they will help you with that pet project to make your surroundings more attractive.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMARA HIRSCH  
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### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 8 QJ763 ♠ Q82 ♠ 873

The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ 1 NT ?

What action do you take?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 9543 ♠ AK109 ♠ AJ10 ♠ 6

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ 1 NT 2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ A83 ♠ AK8 ♠ A6 ♠ K10952

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ 1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ AK64 ♠ K85 ♠ Q1053 ♠ 62

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ K7 ♠ K85 ♠ 65 ♠ J109543

Partner opens the bidding with two no trump (22-23 points). What do you respond?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ AJ9653 ♠ 8 ♠ 5 ♠ AK843

Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

## HOROSCOPE

### FORECAST FOR THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: It will be difficult to have success today even though your combining the ideas you want to create under with your knowledge of current world conditions, due to three Moon Squares.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You find that you are able to get one of your family to go along with some pleasure that appeals to you and you can also relax during spare moments at home.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Make a point to actually show now that you can exert your charm to please some regular ally who is disturbed and who needs words of encouragement.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have some quiet benefit you can read on in trouble who would appreciate it very much and so do something in return for you that you need very much.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Whatever you would like to do that requires contacting a good friend who has many ideas for your betterment is fine so listen carefully to his suggestions.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Let those who have any sort of need realize that you are the one who does value and appreciate whatever support you have gotten from an official no matter how confidential.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You have some new ideas which require that you make sure

they are legal and accepted by an official who has some control over your activities.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Take some time out to show you are the one who does listen to those new inspirational ideas being given you now by an associate who is well rounded in nature.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You find some communication from one of very different ideas from your own giving you the chance to make headway where it means you the most.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have a considerable number of projects to do but the outline has already been laid down for its successful completion so don't get off on tangent.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) One of whom you are fond gives you the answer for which you have been searching just how you can get a close partner to help you succeed.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You have some amusement planned at home that is very good for you even though you require a considerable amount of assistance to get it done.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This is the moment to seek out some improved methods by which to get your charm at a higher level of magnesian as well as do your routines better.

## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I'm sick of low-fat food, so I ate a jar of mayonnaise for breakfast!"

## JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SOOME

KLACH

VISPLE

CARNID

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumble: NEEDY BRASS PURPLE DURESS

Answer: An old form of social security that's been revived lately—SUSPENDERS

When someone bats a crow he also swallows this.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

THE Daily Crossword by Florence C. Adler

ACROSS

1 Sch. subj.

5 Stunt

9 Finance

14 Exchange

15 in the past

16 Eyelashes

17 Placed

18 Lip

19 Bid

20 Learning to one side

22 Cascade

24 Fort

26 Schemes

27 Shouts of approval

28 Feminine suffix

30 Cote sound

33 Joyous season

37 Fungus flavor

38 Goggles

39 Hockey great

40 Nest on a Craig

41 Carnegie

42 Inappropriate

44 Additional

45 Yarn letters

46 Grade

47 Ejects

48 Required

53 Opera with a rural subject

57 Musical subject

58 Houston player

59 Do nothing

61 Journey

62 Bone

63 Tennis score

64 Apollo's mother

65 Sily

66 Placed

67 Formerly

DOWN

1 Of the cheek

2 Sure-footed

3 Fearful

4 Children's game

5 Acme

6 Over again

7 Dismantle

8 Percussion instrument

9 Disdains

10 Squabbles

11 Cade word for "A"

12 Ger. seaport

13 Nobleman

21 Pieces of gossip

23 Cornfort

25 For each

26 Refuses to

28 Cooperate

31 Indigo

32 US author

33 I. noble family

34 Pinnacle

35 Small fraction

36 Grogginess



## Financial Markets

In co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	NEW YORK Date 12/11/91 CLOSE	TOKYO Date 13/11/91 CLOSE
Sterling Pound	1.7694	1.7713
Deutsche Mark	1.6401	1.6383
Swiss Franc	1.4540	1.4522
French Franc	5.6025	5.5988**
Japanese Yen	129.98	129.98
European Currency Unit	1.2469	1.2475**

USD Per STG

\* Standard Quoting of 100 U.S. Cents

Discrepancy Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.87	5.00	5.00	5.12
Sterling Pound	10.37	10.12	10.06	10.06
Deutsche Mark	9.00	9.37	9.37	9.37
Swiss Franc	7.75	8.00	8.00	7.93
French Franc	9.12	9.12	9.12	9.25
Japanese Yen	6.12	6.06	5.81	5.59
European Currency Unit	9.37	9.75	9.81	9.81

Interest rate bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Precious Metals

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	356.75	6.80	Silver	4.07	.089

\* 21 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6830	0.6850
Sterling Pound	1.2087	1.2147
Deutsche Mark	0.4164	0.4185
Swiss Franc	0.4699	0.4722
French Franc	0.1219	0.1225
Japanese Yen	0.5250	0.5276
Dutch Guilder	0.3697	0.3715
Swedish Krona	0.1140	0.1146
Italian Lira	0.0554	0.0557
Belgian Franc	0.02027	0.02037

\* Per 100

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7820	1.7910
Lebanese Lira	0.07735	0.07785
Saudi Riyal	0.1818	0.1824
Kuwaiti Dinar		
Qatari Riyal	0.1850	0.1860
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7480	1.7570
UAE Dirham	0.1850	0.1860
Greek Drachma	0.3672	0.3712
Cypriot Pound	1.4760	1.4930

\* Per 100

CAS Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	11/11/91	Close	12/11/91	Close
All-Share	124.50		124.36	
Banking Sector	105.24		105.04	
Insurance Sector	125.91		125.94	
Industry Sector	153.60		153.48	
Services Sector	134.14		134.38	

December 31, 1990 = 100

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.7700/10	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1360/65	Canadian dollar
	1.6385/95	Deutsche marks
	1.8465/75	Dutch guilders
	1.4515/25	Swiss francs
	33.72/76	Belgian francs
	5.6000/50	French francs
	123.12/24	Italian lire
	129.80/80	Japanese yen
	5.9830/80	Swedish crowns
	6.4210/60	Norwegian crowns
	6.3600/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	356.40/90	U.S. dollars

## Bread price rises sixfold in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Prices of superior quality bread rose sixfold in Moscow Wednesday, but shoppers at city bakeries reacted calmly to the news.

City Major Gavril Popov announced that three different types of bread would now cost 3.60 rubles compared to the old price of 60 kopecks. The simplest type of black and white bread will continue at the old price of between 50 and 60 kopecks.

The rises are an advance measure before bread rationing cards are brought in at the end of the year to cope with growing food shortages.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin has staked his political future on a swift transition to a market economy. His radical reform programme aims to free prices by January and privatise most state enterprises.

Many Muscovites, interviewed at state bakery no. 675 in central Moscow, said they approved of phasing out big subsidies on bread although it is their staple food and widely considered the last safeguard against starvation.

Pointing to the sign displayed in most bakeries which reads "bread is our wealth," 45-year-old architect Alexander Seryov said: "They always say that, but it costs a lot to make bread and it makes to start paying the right price for it."

Shoppers said busy workers with no time to queue for bread would now be able to buy the three expensive round loaves, while pensioners with plenty of time but little money could stand in line for cheap kinds of bread.

The average pension is under 200 rubles a month, less than half the 500 rubles officially deemed necessary to survive in

Moscow. At the tourist exchange rate, one dollar now buys 47 rubles.

The Soviet Union Monday abolished import tariffs on food and other essential goods to ease acute domestic shortages. "This had been done to fill the consumer market with goods," TASS news agency quoted chief customs officer Nikolai Yermakov as saying at a news conference.

There will be no import duties on food, medicine, raw materials, agricultural inputs and equipment for the food processing and light industrial sectors, he said, without specifying how high the tariffs had been.

The decision removes one obstacle to increased Soviet imports. But many traders will still be deterred by the non-convertibility of the ruble currency, unless they can arrange barter deals to cover hard currency costs.

Mr. Yermakov said enterprises will now be allowed to import goods not only for their own requirements but to sell for rubles.

He also announced more generous international postal tariffs, with parcels valued at up to \$40 exempt from duty and no packages as a rule being opened.

Soviet imports fell by about 50 per cent in the first half of this year, compared with the equivalent period of 1990, according to some Soviet estimates, with food and consumer goods accounting for much of the drop.

Mr. Yermakov said the relaxed import regime would be accompanied by changes in export rules, with duties of between 300 and 600 per cent being levied on certain consumer goods exports that were previously banned.

## Unemployment falls in eastern Germany

BONN (R) — Unemployment fell in east Germany for the second month in a row in September and Bonn said the data showed the economy of the ex-communist east was recovering from the shock of overnight exposure to capitalism last year.

But the official figures also revealed that the eastern jobless rate was still nearly twice as high as in wealthy western Germany one year after unification.

The Federal Labour Office said the number of people without a job in east Germany dropped to 1.03 million or 11.7 per cent of the total workforce in September from 1.06 million and 12.1 per cent in August.

The number of short-time workers declined to 1.33 million from 1.45 million and 450,000 easterners were making a living by commuting to work in the west.

In west Germany, unemployment fell to 1.61 million or six per

cent of the total workforce in September from 1.67 million and 6.2 per cent in August. Seasonally adjusted unemployment was unchanged at 1.71 million.

The government claimed credit for the improvements in the east and in particular for state-funded job creation schemes.

"This positive development comes from an economic upswing, especially in construction, repair trades and the service sector, and above all from the firm support of active labour market policies by the government," chief government spokesman Dieter Vogel said.

Economics Minister Juergen Moellmann said average eastern unemployment for the year may not surpass a psychological barrier of one million as many had feared.

But he warned that east Germany's labour market may not yet be on the road to recovery.

## Commerce Department official stresses Bahrain importance

MANAMA (AP) — Bahrain could serve as a good springboard for American companies to deal with Iran when Washington opens up relations with the Persian state, a U.S. Department of Commerce official said Tuesday.

David Jensen, deputy assistant secretary, noted that a number of political issues remain to be resolved before normalisation of ties.

But he said: "Bahrain is ideally situated from a nation of 50-60 million, and American companies can take advantage of Iran if based here."

Mr. Jensen was winding up a visit he called "an early followup to a commitment from President Bush" to foster Bahrain's eco-

nomy. The president made that pledge during the state visit of the emir, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, to Washington last month.

Bahrain played a key role in helping the U.S.-led coalition through Operation Desert Storm.

The Gulf News Agency said Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa told Mr. Jensen that investment opportunities open to the American economic sector translated into "the start of a new era in economic cooperation in the interest of the two countries."

Mr. Jensen said Bahrain was keen to liberalise its economy

## Bankers, economists say Kuwait has sold off most of its liquid assets

MANAMA, Bahrain (Agencies) — Kuwait sold off most of its liquid assets to raise \$30 billion spent since Iraqi troops left last February but long-term investments remain intact, Gulf-based bankers and economists say.

Kuwait was forced to draw down about \$25 billion of its overseas investments — estimated at \$100 billion — to get the country back on its feet while it was deprived of oil income, they said.

The assets sold by Kuwait comprised bank deposits, bonds and equity held in its trading portfolio, the bankers said. Strategic holdings in major foreign firms and fixed overseas assets were left untouched.

"Without generating any oil income, it's clear that they used a good portion of their liquid assets — they have drawn about 25 per cent of their total portfolio equivalent to around \$20 to \$25 billion," one senior economist in the region said.

"The have sold most of the their liquid trading portfolio — between \$20 to \$25 billion," the manager of a foreign bank closely involved with Kuwait said.

Economists said Kuwait spent another \$5 billion worth of income generated by its overseas investments.

Most of the emirate's oil wells — which provided the bulk of its revenues before the Iraqi invasion — were set ablaze by Iraqi troops. Its oil infrastructure was also heavily damaged.

Kuwait officials have repeatedly said the emirate would not sell stakes in foreign firms like Daimler-Benz A.G., Germany's

largest industrial group, to help finance reconstruction.

In Germany Kuwait owns 14 per cent of Daimler-Benz, 20 per cent of German engineering and metals firm Metallgesellschaft, and 20 per cent of chemical group Hoechst. In Britain, it holds nine per cent of British Petroleum.

Economists said it was unlikely Kuwait would need to sell off these holdings, which are part of its strategic investment portfolio. Rising oil revenues during 1992 and a jumbo \$5 billion loan which is in syndication now would help cover its bills over the coming months, they said.

The loan, which was oversubscribed by \$1 billion, may be raised to \$6 billion, bankers said. They said it was unlikely the emirate would need more syndicated loans.

"The way things are going, given the fact they have a smaller population and have paid off most of their war debts, I think their oil revenues and income generated from investment will be sufficient next year," one economist said.

"They may have to draw a bit more from their investments at the start of the year but that will change as their oil production hits one million barrels per day (b/d)," he added.

Kuwait's Finance Minister Nasser Abdullah Al Rodhan said in remarks published last week Kuwait had raised its projected oil revenues for fiscal 1991 by nearly 40 per cent because well-head fires had been put out three months ahead of schedule.

He predicted oil income for the

fiscal year ending June 30 1992 would be 700 million dinars rather than an initially estimated 425 million while revenues for fiscal 1992 would reach two billion dinars. One dinar is worth about \$3.5.

Kuwaiti oil production is forecast to rise to one million b/d by mid-1992 from 465,000 b/d at present and 1.5 million b/d by the end of 1992. The current figure includes 145,000 b/d of crude from the Neutral Zone shared with Saudi Arabia.

Sheikh Rodhan estimated the cost of rebuilding Kuwait's oil industry at about \$80 billion. This included \$1.5 billion already spent to put out oilwell fires as well as the cost of drilling new wells, repairing gathering centres, refineries and oilwells damaged by Iraqi troops.

Kuwait-based economists say the emirate has paid the United States and its Gulf war allies almost all of the \$22 billion it owed them for ending Iraq's occupation.

Meanwhile a representative of the Export-Import Bank of the United States said Wednesday it was ready to consider requests by Kuwait for more export credit guarantees.

That would be in addition to a \$2 billion credit guarantee it has extended to Kuwait. The guarantees are given to American exporters that sell goods to Kuwait.

Leroy Laroche, the bank's deputy vice president for Africa and the Middle East, and Lailani Newton, the bank's vice president for contract administration, held a press conference at the

Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA), winding up a week of talks with government officials, Kuwaiti banks and private companies.

Mr. Laroche said their visit aimed at working out details on implementing the agreement signed in Washington by the investment authority and the U.S. bank Sept. 20.

"Our purpose is to put flesh on the bones of that skeleton and make it work so that Kuwait will move ahead with its reconstruction, with the recovery of the economy and so that we can assist also with new projects," Mr. Laroche said.

He added that the U.S. bank has not any set limits on providing export credits for trade with Kuwait.

"We wanted to represent something that seemed like a reasonable figure in the light of Kuwait's needs," Mr. Laroche said.

"If the \$2 billion is fully utilised we would certainly consider requests for additional financing," he said.

Mr. Laroche said the team also explored ways to assist private sector needs for credit to support U.S. exports to Kuwait.

The \$2 billion will be used as guarantees for Kuwait's procurement of American goods, services and machinery, said the KIA's managing director, Abdullah Al Gabandi.

Mr. Al Gabandi said there were no precise figures for the cost of reconstruction of Kuwait's infrastructure, but experts put it at \$20 billion.

Paul Sarbanes that the economy was still mired in recession but acknowledged that growth was so slow he could not rule out output contracting again.

"We are still experiencing a positive recovery but not as strong as we would like it to be, he said. "It's sluggish."

Mr. Mulford said that U.S. export growth, which played a major role in sustaining the economy last year, has slowed as the economies of America's major trading partners have cooled off and their demand for U.S. goods has eased.

The United States has been pressing its fellow G-7 members — Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan — for months to do more to promote global growth through lower interest rates and other actions to pump up their economies.

"We are seeing real progress in this regard," Mr. Mulford said. But, he added, "additional policy actions must be brought to bear in this effort."

In a report issued to Congress last Friday, the Treasury Department complained that Germany's steadfast monetary policy was helping to keep world interest rates high and hindering global growth.

But so far Germany's powerful central bank does not appear to be listening. In fact, Helmut Hesse, a member of the Bundesbank's policy-making council, suggested Monday that the central bank might even have to raise rates to keep strong inflationary pressures in check.

the beginning of the year," he said. But Mr. Cavallo said the 30 per cent holding the government still retains in phone company Entel was now worth more than double the \$400 million originally estimated.

"Today we estimate that we can raise \$800-\$900 million only six months after having started the stabilisation of the economy," Mr. Cavallo said.

Previous attempts to rein in inflation had collapsed because of a failure to wipe out the fiscal deficit. The government is now prevented by law from printing money unless it is fully backed by gold and currency reserves.

Monthly inflation fell to 1.8 per cent in September, down from a monthly average of 13.5 per cent in the first nine months of 1990 and 78.4 per cent in the first nine months of 1989.

## Bush wants lower rates on credit cards

NEW YORK (Agencies) — President Bush, saying signals are mixed on the health of the U.S. economy, called Tuesday for banks and other financial institutions to lower interest rates on consumer credit cards.

Mr. Bush made the appeal as he delivered a sharp attack on Democratic leaders in Congress, accusing them of stifling efforts to spur the economy and of blocking his domestic proposals.

Speaking at a fundraising luncheon for his reelection campaign, Mr. Bush said his proposals had been "mugged by party leadership locked in the tired old liberal mindset and determined to go one up politically."

He mixed his partisan attack on Democrats with an attempt to talk down interest rates on credit cards, which he suggested were too high.

"I'd frankly like to see the credit cards rates down. I believe that would help stimulate the consumer and get the confidence moving again," Mr. Bush said.

Credit card interest rates are now commonly in the 18 per cent to 19 per cent range, 10 percentage points or more above the prime rate that banks charge their most credit worthy customers. The prime rate now is 7.5 per cent.

Mr. Bush earlier this month

called on Americans to buy more cars and homes to help stimulate the economy.

Banks have been slow to cut a variety of interest rate charges despite a yearlong effort by the Federal Reserve to push rates down to stimulate borrowing demand. Instead, banks have used the widening difference between their cost of funds and the rates they are charging borrowers to bolster their own shaky profit levels, which have been under severe strain because of mounting losses on bad loans.

Economists have also suggested that with banks having difficulty getting repayment on existing loans, they have been extremely cautious in making new loans, a development that has been labelled the credit crunch and is often cited as a key factor depressing economic activity.

"Right now the signals are mixed" on the economy, he said. He said that, despite low growth figures, inflation was low and most interest rates were "low now compared to recent history."

"I'm convinced we'll see these low rates kick in and boost this sagging consumer confidence," Mr. Bush said.

Mr. Bush called anew for passage of a cut in the capital gains tax, which he said would help put

Americans back to work.

Mr. Bush said, "sometimes I get this sinking feeling that the Democrats believe that they can win only if times are bad. They have a vested interest in seeing us fail."

Meanwhile a senior U.S. Treasury Department official voiced concern Tuesday about the slow pace of the U.S. recovery and urged America's industrial allies to do more to pump up global growth.

"Both the strength and pace of the recovery have been a constant concern, certainly of mine," U.S. Treasury Undersecretary David Mulford said, adding, "We're seeing a very slow rate of recovery."

He told a Senate Banking Subcommittee that high interest rates internationally were hampering global growth and singled out Germany as the one country in the powerful Group of Seven (G-7) that has not cut interest rates in recent months.

The Bush administration has faced increasing political pressure to take action to boost the economy as the recovery that started in the summer has shown signs of faltering and the countdown to next year's presidential election has begun.

Mr. Mulford dismissed suggestions by subcommittee chairman

## Argentina to widen support for sale

BANGKOK (R) — Argentina hopes to widen popular support for an ambitious privatisation programme by using part of the proceeds to fund a nearly bankrupt pensions system, Argentine Finance Minister Domingo Cavallo has said.

Mr. Cavallo said Argentina, which plans to complete a sell-off of state assets by mid-1993, will use another portion to pay off some of its \$62 billion debt to foreign banks.

"We will use part of the proceeds for an overall settlement of the debt and we are thinking of using the other part to create a fund to strengthen the pension system," Mr. Cavallo told Reuters.

Argentina hoped to reach a

settlement with its creditors in the first half of 1992, once it negotiated an extended financing facility with the IMF. The country already has a \$1 billion IMF standby loan.

Privatisations would help generate cash to pay off debt. "The priority is to obtain cash to add to what we obtain from the extended financing facility from the fund and whatever we obtain from other sources to build up the room ... we need for an overall solution of the debt," he said.

Mr. Cavallo would launch the pensions initiative as a rebuff to criticism the government has used money from privatisations to plug a public sector deficit, Argentine officials said.

"In the past Argentina used the

(pension) contributions of the active population to finance deficits and now all we have to fulfil obligations to pensioners are the contributions that active workers make each month," Mr. Cavallo said.

Economists say Argentina's pensions system is technically bankrupt although it continues to make payments to pensioners. Argentina estimated earlier this year, before launching its latest stabilisation programme in April, that it could raise \$6 billion by selling all state-owned productive assets.

State-owned oil company Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales (YPF) was not included in the estimate.

"Today we can estimate substantially higher figures, and if we include YPF even more," Mr. Cavallo said. He declined to give a revised estimate. "I prefer to stick with the figures we had at

## FOR SALE

Five Doberman, brown colour, mother was champion in Europe. Each one five hundred dollars.

3 - 2-month-old Rottweiler

Contact 655138 from 9 p.m.-1p.m. and 3-8 p.m.

## PUBLIC INVITATION

On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, the Department of Antiquities has the pleasure to invite all citizens, residents and their guests to visit National Museums and sites including Petra and Jerash free of charge on this happy day, November 14, 1991.

## Under The Patronage Of The President Of The P.N.C. SHEIKH ABDULHAMEED AL-SAIH

The American Arab Anti Discrimination Committee

In cooperation with the UNRWA schools, invites you to a Drawing Exhibition in Commemoration of The Third Anniversary of the Declaration of a Palestinian State

at 4:00 p.m., Saturday Nov. 16, 1991 at the Royal Cultural Centre The exhibition will last until Thursday evening Nov. 21, 1991

Cinema Tel: 677420

## CONCORD

Adel Imam in  
SHAMS  
AL ZANATI  
(Arabic)



Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 634144

## PHILADELPHIA

PRETTY WOMAN

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Tel: 675571



## Bonn pushing for fast recognition of Croatia, Slovenia

### Shelling stops in Dubrovnik

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (R) — The Yugoslav army stopped shelling Dubrovnik just before noon (1100 GMT) Wednesday under a ceasefire agreed with Croatian authorities in the Adriatic city, Croatian radio said.

The ceasefire was apparently aimed at allowing a ferry into the port city to take out six European Community (EC) monitors, foreign nationals and other evacuees.

But there was confusion about whether the ferry had arrived or was on its way.

Tanjung News Agency said the Slavija ferry had entered Dubrovnik, which came under artillery fire Wednesday morning, but EC officials said the boat had not left the port of Zelenika 35 kilometres away.

"The ship is still in Zelenika and awaiting permission to proceed," Renée Steeghs, an EC spokeswoman, said in the Croatian capital Zagreb.

"We had agreed a ceasefire ... with the army but it will be of no use if the ship is not allowed to proceed as it will not get there on time," she said.

"We are trying to get a ceasefire for later in the day. We also have to agree a ceasefire with the Croat side."

Earlier Wednesday, the local Federal Naval Command confirmed a statement by Dubrovnik Mayor Pero Poljanec that there would be a truce.

Mr. Poljanec told British television he could not be sure that the ceasefire would take hold because repeated attempts to halt the fighting have failed since Serb-led federal forces besieged Dubrovnik on Oct. 1.

Croatian militias have been fighting the army and Serbian

irregulars since the Serb minority in Croatia took up arms to protest at the republic's declaration of independence from Yugoslavia in June.

Meanwhile Bonn officials said Wednesday, Germany wants the European Community to recognize Yugoslavia's breakaway republics by early December and could lead a majority in doing so if the whole 12-nation group cannot agree.

Bonn, which does not want to go it alone in recognising Croatia and Slovenia, has been winning support within the EC to take the step before the Community's Dec. 9-10 summit in the Dutch city of Maastricht, they said.

If a consensus is reached, EC leaders could announce it at the summit they want to devote to finalising controversial plans for their political and economic union, they added.

"They German government's efforts aim at finding a large majority among EC states for a recognition," said Ulrich Irmer, foreign policy spokesman for the Free Democratic Party (FDP), junior partner in Mr. Kohl's centre-right coalition.

"As soon as this majority emerges, recognition will be announced," he told German radio.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the FDP's most prominent politician, said last week that "the train towards recognition has already started to roll."

He revealed no target date for its arrival but government officials who asked not to be named said Mr. Genscher told them Monday that early December was his goal.

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## Ease up on nuclear pressure against North Korea, China says

SEOUL (R) — China told the world Wednesday to ease pressure on North Korea, which is being asked to accept international inspection of a nuclear programme that regional and Western experts fear is aimed at making a bomb.

A Japanese government spokesman said Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen told his Japanese counterpart, Michio Watanabe: "It is not good for many nations to pressure one country into a corner."

Mr. Qian and Mr. Watanabe met privately in the South Korean capital where both are leading delegations to the ministerial meeting of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), a loosely knit grouping of 15 Pacific rim economies.

APEC opened the first of two plenary sessions Wednesday to discuss economic cooperation and future programmes, but bilateral meetings and issues between the member states, and North Korea's nuclear research overshadowed the formal agenda.

Pyeongyang has denied it is making a nuclear weapon, but

has just as resolutely refused to allow inspection of its facilities.

Earlier on Wednesday, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker reiterated to South Korean Foreign Minister Lee Sang-Ok that he considered the North Korean nuclear programme "the number one security issue in Asia."

The United States, Japan and South Korea have been coordinating diplomacy against the North Korean nuclear programme, and have striven to enlist other nations, including China and the Soviet Union, in the effort.

## Indonesia regrets killings in Timor

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia, bowing to international pressure, said Wednesday it would investigate an army shooting in East Timor which may have killed up to 100 people.

Witnesses said the army fired on thousands of people in the capital Dili Tuesday. The marchers, in a show of defiance against Indonesian rule, were marking the death in riots two weeks ago of an East Timorese.

Diplomats and independent sources put the death toll at anywhere between 20 and 115.

"We regret what happened but it must be realised that they (fighters against Indonesian rule) are brutal," Indonesian Armed Forces Commander Try Sutrisno told reporters. "We will investigate the case and we regret it."

He said the army, which has maintained a strong presence in East Timor since it was annexed by Indonesia in 1976, had only begun shooting as a last resort to restore order.

Gen. Try would only say that fewer than 100 were killed, with about 40 injured.

An army spokesman for the region told the daily Berita Buana the incident started when the army discovered that more than 100 separatists carrying Portuguese-made G-3 rifles and grenades had come down to Dili to join the procession.

Regional army commander Brigadier Sintong Panjaitan told the daily media Indonesia: "The authorities will never be in any doubt about taking tough action against any abuse of our persuasive approach. The only order is: To kill or to be killed."

Timorese sources contacted in Australia said the bodies were buried in mass graves and troops had conducted house-to-house searches for independence sympathisers.

Gen. Try said there were no foreign victims, apparently meaning deaths, though diplomats said a young New Zealander was badly hurt and there were reports that he had died. The New Zealand embassy was not immediately available for comment.

Indonesia's Institute for the Defence of Human Rights said seven foreigners, including four journalists and a tourist, had been hurt.

## Dutch bombs signal backlash against racism

AMSTERDAM (R) — Bombs exploded at the Dutch Interior Ministry in the Hague and the home of a junior justice minister Wednesday as left-wing activists went on the attack against rising racism in Europe.

No one was hurt in the early morning blasts, but damage at the home of Justice Minister Aad Kosto in the village of Groot-Schermer north of Amsterdam was so severe that the building may have to be demolished, police said.

The Radical Anti-Racist Action (RARA) group, responsible for a series of arson attacks on South African targets in the 1980s, said in statement it planted the bombs "to put a stop to an asylum policy that writes off, excludes and dehumanises people."

Anti-racist groups were quick to condemn the RARA attacks as provocative and dangerous.

"This is the way to create a climate in which people stop listening to each other," said the National Anti-Racism Bureau (NAB).

The Netherlands, in common with other European countries, faces a rising tide of immigrants from former Communist countries to the East and the ever more populous countries of the Maghreb and Africa to the south.

The number seeking political asylum has surged in recent years, reaching a record 21,208 in 1990 — 50 per cent up on 1989.

Now Europe's most densely populated country is trying to halt the flow. The government plans new laws to punish those helping illegal immigrants with up to three years in jail.

## Gates takes U.S. intelligence helm

LANGLEY, Virginia (AP) — Robert Gates was sworn in as director of the CIA, embarking on an ambitious plan to redefine the mission of U.S. intelligence and hoping to persuade employees he's not the ogre that some of them have made him out to be.

Gates, 48, became the 15th director of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) after undergoing one of the stormiest Senate confirmation hearings ever for that post and winning approval by a 64-31 vote.

Critics, among them current and former agency officials, have accused Gates of pressuring subordinates in earlier years into writing reports tailored to the strong anti-Soviet bias of the Reagan administration. Gates, who served as deputy CIA director from 1986 to 1989, has also been criticised over the agency's role in the Iran-contra affair.

President George Bush, in brief remarks at the swearing-in ceremony, presented Gates with a mandate to quickly move the intelligence community "beyond the cold war to the complex problems of the 21st century."

Under Mr. Gates, Mr. Bush said, "we will dramatically expand our human intelligence collection efforts. We will give our officers and analysts the very finest in support technology."

Mr. Gates plans to ask for a study on how to move the administration's \$30-billion-a-year intelligence activities away from a 40-year preoccupation with the Soviet Union and its East European satellites.

The intelligence community, which includes the CIA and more than a dozen other agencies, has already begun to shift its priorities to problems such as the spread of nuclear and chemical weapons among Third World powers.

Mr. Gates has spoken of the need to beef up human intelligence — the agent network — in addition to technological means such as satellites and electronic eavesdropping.

The degree of change will be determined in large part by projected cuts of as much as 30 per cent in the intelligence community's budgets over the next five years.

Mr. Gates, the first agency insider named to the top job in 18 years, has the advantage of knowing the intelligence community as well as the intelligence consumers — the policy-makers. For the past three years he has served as Mr. Bush's deputy national security adviser.

## Mandela names date for S. African settlement talks

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Long-awaited all-party talks to negotiate a post-apartheid democratic constitution for South Africa will start on Nov. 29, African National Congress (ANC) President Nelson Mandela said Wednesday.

He told reporters the ANC was ready to join other black parties and the white government of President F.W. de Klerk at the negotiating table.

"The all-party conference is set down for the 29th and 30th of November," he said.

Mandela, speaking after a meeting with Italian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrea Borroso, said ANC preparations for the conference were well in hand. He said he saw nothing likely to derail these arrangements.

"We are prepared to sit around the table with everybody who

wishes to make a positive contribution towards the success of the conference ... Whatever attitude De Klerk takes, we are determined for it to succeed," he said.

The talks, which will lay a framework for power-sharing and a transition to non-racial democracy, had been widely tipped to start before the end of the year.

Mandela gave no details of the venue, agenda or framework for the conference, which is set to put the country irreversibly on the road to democracy.

Diplomatic sources said they expected the negotiations to open formally at a neutral site midway between Johannesburg and the capital, Pretoria, and then adjourn until after the Christmas holidays.

A conference steering committee is due to meet Friday in Johannesburg to finalise details.

## Canadian committee on units crumbles in disarray

TORONTO (AP) — The parliamentary committee travelling across Canada in search of new ideas for national unity has itself crumbled into disarray.

The bickering has hobbled the government drive to head off a referendum on sovereignty by French-speaking Quebec.

The 30-member committee of senators and members of the House of Commons returned to Ottawa last week for a much-needed overhaul after weeks of poor organisation, poorly publicised meetings and, lately, poorly attended sessions.

Opposition Liberals and New Democrats demand the resignation of co-chair Dorothy Dobbie,

a Manitoba conservative, and threaten to boycott further proceedings. Joe Clark, the constitutional affairs minister, is trying to calm things down and get the committee moving again.

Mrs. Dobbie is accused of politicising her leadership role on the all-party committee by hiring a former aide as executive director and retaining a logistics firm with conservative connections to coordinate committee travel.

French Quebecers, struggling to protect their language and culture in the North American sea of English, want their distinctiveness to be entrenched in the constitution, among other demands.

results were quickly leaked by council sources, also disclosed for the first time how much support each candidate had among the powerful permanent council members.

Mr. Chidzero and Dr. Ghali are among eight Africans in a field of 14 official candidates to succeed 71-year-old Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar when he retires at the end of this year after two five-year terms.

African countries insist it is time a candidate from their continent headed the world organisation.

The first U.N. secretary-general was Trygve Lie of Norway, followed by Dag Hammarskjöld of Sweden, U. Thant of Burma, Kurt Waldheim of Austria and Mr. Perez de Cuellar, a Peruvian.

In third place in Tuesday's unofficial poll was Kenneth Daddie of Ghana, secretary-general of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development, with six votes in favour and two against, with seven abstentions. He too, emerged without a veto and was backed by one of the permanent members.

Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, a

## Zimbabwean, Egyptian lead in race for U.N. chief

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Zimbabwe's Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero took the lead in an unofficial Security Council poll Tuesday for the post of U.N. secretary-general, closely followed by Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Boutros Ghali.

Mr. Chidzero won 11 votes in favour, one against and three abstentions, while Dr. Ghali received 10 positive votes, two negative votes and three abstentions.

Both escaped a veto by any of the five permanent Security Council members — the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, China and France.

But council sources said Dr. Ghali appeared in a stronger position since he had support of four of the five permanent members while Mr. Chidzero was backed by only two.

This was the first in a recent series of so-called "straw polls" to register not only positive votes, negative votes and abstentions, but also to show whether any negative votes were cast by permanent council members — equivalent to vetoes.

The unofficial ballot, whose

## Yeltsin: Gorbachev blocking Honecker extradition

MOSCOW (R) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin says his efforts to hand former East German leader Erich Honecker back to Germany to stand trial are being blocked by President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"He is under Gorbachev's protection," Mr. Yeltsin said in an interview with the Hamburg weekly Die Zeit ahead of a visit to Germany next week. A text of the interview was made available to Reuters Wednesday in advance of publication.

Mr. Yeltsin said Mr. Honecker was obstinately resisting efforts by Moscow to persuade him to return voluntarily.

Mr. Honecker, East German leader for almost two decades until forced to resign by protests in October, 1989, was spirited to Moscow by the Soviet army in March this year without the assent of German authorities.

Bonn now seeks his return on charges connected with the killing of some 200 would-be refugees on the Berlin Wall and inter-German border that disappeared with unification in 1990.

Mr. Yeltsin said he and Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin were now dealing personally with the Honecker case, after previously leaving it to be handled by Mr. Gorbachev and the KGB.

Since the attempted coup in August, Mr. Gorbachev, while remaining Soviet president, has had to yield much of his power to Mr. Yeltsin as leader of the largest republic.

"Honecker has made no request for political asylum. And you (Germans) have certain claims to him. But there is a problem, a moral problem, between Gorbachev and Honecker," Mr. Yeltsin said in the interview.

"When I got past the legal aspects of the problem, I reached this barrier. I spoke with Gorbachev and he said: 'I have moral obligations to him (Honecker) that will be very hard for me to overcome. If Honecker were to say that he was not opposed, then it would not be a problem.'"

Mr. Yeltsin said that if it looked as though Mr. Honecker, who is nearly 80, would be able to retire on pension, then he could be persuaded to return.

The work of persuasion is being carried out continuously, by Pankin himself as well. But he (Mr. Honecker) is very obstinate."

Mr. Yeltsin, commenting for the first time on his unsuccessful attempt to enforce a state of emergency in the southern Republic of Chechnya-Ingushetia, told Die Zeit that Russia would have to find a way of defending itself against Islamic fundamentalism.

The Russian Parliament Monday refused to back Mr. Yeltsin's emergency decree, a decision hailed as a big victory over Russian imperialism by Chechen leader General Dzhokhar Dudayev.

"Of course the religious factor plays a great role, the fundamentalism that comes from the south," Mr. Yeltsin said. "It is not by chance that representatives of Iran and Syria attended Dudayev's inauguration."

"We must consider plans to defend ourselves. I don't mean that in the sense of the tsar setting up Cossack forts to protect the country from the south," he added.

## Monks pray, police patrol for Sihanouk's return

PHNOM PENH (R) — Saffron-robed monks prayed and hundreds of police patrolled Cambodia's royal palace amid frantic preparations for Thursday's homecoming of exiled Prince Norodom Sihanouk, once and future leader of the Khmers.

"I want to see the face of Prince Sihanouk because when he comes home he will bring peace," said an elderly shaven-headed Buddhist monk who sat cross-legged and chewing cheroot in the capital's largest temple Wat Oumaloum late Wednesday.

Outside, painters raced to add final touches to the first coat of whitewash which the main streets have seen for years.

Portraits of the 69-year-old prince as a young man gazed over road junctions and flashing fairy lights decorated buildings in the crumbling, electricity-starved city.

The blue and red flags of the Phnom Penh government, which Prince Sihanouk tried to overthrow through 13 years of guerrilla warfare, snapped in the breeze alone the route he will take from the radar-less airport to his gilded palace beside the Mekong River.

The streets of the capital, once a gracious city of tree-lined avenues and French colonial villas but now a slum, are filled with visitors from the countryside come to see the man they once worshipped as a demi-god.

An official at the bus station said traffic into the city had increased by 60 per cent in the days before Prince Sihanouk's arrival. Smiling monks said they had travelled from remote provinces. In dimly lit streets people gathered to eat and chat excitedly.

Police guarded the palace, blocked off roads and directed thousands of onlookers gawking at carpenters finishing the \$200,000 palace renovation.

Not every citizen will cheer the prince.

"I don't care if he comes back or not," said a man operating a jewellery stall in the market. "But if peace comes there will be more chances to make money."

"I am not happy," said Yator, a 34-year-old man living on the outskirts. "He keeps changing his mind. He doesn't keep his word."

The strange bedfellows of Prince Sihanouk's political life are legion.

He was a teenage figurehead king under the French colonial authorities, a fervent nationalist campaigner, a prime minister under his restored father, a jungle fighter, a puppet head of state under the bloodthirsty Khmer Rouge, a prisoner of the Khmer Rouge, a guerrilla group leader, a nominal chief of guerrilla alliance.

Now he is head of the Supreme National Council, a reconciliation body made up of representatives — the small, non-communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front, the royalists and the communist Khmer Rouge, who killed a million Cambodians during their 1975-1979 reign of terror.

All four factions have agreed to make Prince Sihanouk head of state when a new government is chosen in a U.N.-supervised election called for in a peace treaty signed in Paris on Oct. 23.

The Cambodian government said Wednesday it would be extremely difficult to guarantee the safety of Khmer Rouge leaders when they return next week to the city their fighters emptied at gunpoint 16 years ago.

Khmer Rouge Defence Minister Son Sen, in charge of state security during the group's "killing fields" years, is to return Sunday to the capital for a council meeting.

"I'm very happy to hear of Sihanouk's return," a market woman said. "We Khmer people must forget his past and recognise him as the father of our country."

She said her main concern was an end to war.

"If he comes and there is no peace I will be unhappy if he does not come and there is peace I will be happy."

specific programmes for displaced defence workers.

"We already have an obligation to help the unemployed," he said, "but I don't see why we should do anything special for someone who loses a defence job rather than a computer job or some other type of work."

In a separate development the defence department announced Tuesday the U.S. military will end or reduce operations at 71 additional installations in Europe by 1995, bringing to 381 the number of such planned cuts in the area.

The latest reductions, mostly in Germany, are part of a deep cut planned in U.S. defence spending over the next three years. Tuesday's list alone will mean a reduction of 3,646 more U.S. troops and 1,276 American and local civilian personnel.

The United States has some 300,000 troops in Europe and the Defence Department tentatively plans to cut that figure in half by 1995 due to tighter budgets and the death of Soviet communism.

The cuts announced today are not the last you will see. We are reducing the size of the armed forces by 20 per cent by 1995 and the bases simply will not be needed," said one senior defence official, who asked not to be identified.

## U.S. defence budget likely to shrink fast — Carlucci

HARTFORD, Connecticut (R) — The U.S. Defence Budget is likely to shrink faster than planned, and defence firms will have to drastically scale back their operations, Former Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said Tuesday night.

"Defence companies are going to have to adopt new strategies if they are to continue to be in business," Mr. Carlucci told a statewide gathering of business leaders in Connecticut.

He said that although President George Bush has already proposed a one-third decrease in defence spending next year, Congress may push for far more.

"I'd be hesitant to give a long life or long blessing to any defence programme today," he said.

Carlucci, who served as defence secretary from 1987 to 1989, said the conversion of former defence plants to mainstream industrial production "is an optical illusion."

"Although there's a lot of talk in Congress about conversion, you can't suddenly turn defence workers into baby carriage makers," said Mr. Carlucci who sits on the board of two defence firms.

He said he sees no special federal mandate to provide any

specific programmes for displaced defence workers.

"We already have an obligation to help the unemployed," he said, "but I don't see why we should do anything special for someone who loses a defence job rather than a computer job or some other type of work."

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## Column 8

### Jailbird groom takes flight from bride

NOTTINGHAM, England (R) — A prisoner allowed out of jail to get married gave even his bride the slip when he fled from the wedding reception. Christopher Wilson, who was serving a seven-year sentence for wounding offences, wrongfooted his new wife, guests and an escort of two guards from Nottingham jail in central England to make his escape after Saturday's church wedding. Police described Wilson's bride as distressed.

### Actress severs ties with parents

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Roseanne Arnold says she severed ties with her parents since disclosing that her father molested her. "It's like they drove off a cliff and got killed," Mrs. Arnold said in a recent interview. You don't choose your family, said the star of ABC-TV's Roseanne, and "nobody says you have to love or forgive." Mrs. Arnold's parents deny her accusations. She said reconciliation will occur only if her parents acknowledge they need help — and get it. Until then, her parents "have to just be dead to me, and they are," Mrs. Arnold said.

### Actress finds many benefits in being fat

RADNOR (AP) — Conchita Ferrell finds many benefits in being overweight. For one thing, it helped land her a part on NBC's L.A. Law. Ferrell was added to the cast this season playing entertainment lawyer Susan Bloom. She says in this week's TV guide that at her audition she told the producers what fat people always say: "I swear I'm on diet." The reaction was unexpected. "They said, 'You have to be on a diet. The weight is part of who the character is,'" Ferrell said. An upcoming episode of L.A. Law allows Ferrell to air her feelings on the subject. "I get to say something I truly believe. Fat people are the last minority it's OK to treat badly," she said.

### China: A nation of 700 million TV couch potatoes

PEKING (R) — China, which in 1958 had only 50 television sets, now boasts some 700 million couch potatoes who sit glued to the screen, the official China Daily said. The newspaper quoted the Ministry of Broadcasting, Television, and Film as saying television was now China's "most important source of information and entertainment." "China has become the TV kingdom of the world," the newspaper said. "Every day, 700 million people — 60 per cent of the population — are glued to the news and a mixture of imported TV series, features, soap operas, cartoons and home-made dramas." Official statistics say China's state television network now reaches some 140 million sets around the country, compared with only 50 sets when it began broadcasting in 1958. Television advertising, although still in its infancy, already accounts for 22 per cent of China's total advertising turnover, with profits reaching 561 million yuan (\$106 million) in 1990, the newspaper said.

### Indonesia defends controversial lottery

JAKARTA (R) — The Indonesian government Tuesday defended a controversial lottery and warned against attempts to inflame the Muslim majority, whose religion bans gambling. "If they disagree, tell them not to buy the lottery," Coordinating Minister for Politics and Security, Admo, told reporters. About 2,000 Muslim students demonstrated against the lottery at the weekend in the city of Bandung, saying it was against their religion. Abdurrahman Wahid, who heads Indonesia's biggest Islamic group of the 'Nabidlatul Ulama (NU), has accused the government of insensitivity. Indonesia has the world's largest Islamic population. Several Islamic organisations, including the NU, have been accused of accepting money from the lottery. Some analysts say the future may be an attempt to split the powerful NU but others warned of possible wider political repercussions in the run-up of next June's general election. "National stability is absolutely necessary. Don't do anything that can disturb it," Mr. Sudomo said. He denied the lottery amounted to gambling and said the licence for the three-year-old draw — which the government calls a philanthropic donation with prizes — would be extended for another year.